

THE INDEPENDENT

LISTINGS SUPPLEMENT

INSIDE: THE ONLY OFFICIAL UCAS GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY PLACES



The PR man for Jesus



Where are all the funny women?

ARTS, PLUS FILM. & EDUCATION

Clinton faces trial by video

THE US CONGRESS seems al By Andrew Marshall most certain to release a videotape tomorrow of Bill Clinton giving evidence to a grand jury. deepening and prolonging the President's agony.

Mr Clinton's future is still on a knife edge, with no agreement in Congress about how to punish him, growing anger among fierce defender of the President, Congressional Democrats and a toughening stance among Republicans, Although opinion polls show that Mr Clinton's approval ratings have actually improved during months of independent counsel Kenneth Starr's investigation of his alleged perjury and obstruction of justice, public support is clearly fragile.

Polls show the President's approval ratings up since January, hut more people are finding his moral behaviour distasteful. The polls disagree over whether there is a majority in favour of impeachment hearings, and public sentiment could change very quickly if a video indicates he has been deceiving the American people.

The President testified to the grand jury using a video link last month, after refusing to appear in person, and it is this which the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives will today discuss releasing.

John Conyers, the panel's top Democrat, said it would "jeopardise the process and demean our activity", but Republicans insist disclosure is necessary, to show that the President deliberately misled the inquiry. The video shows the President by turns evasive, angry and defensive, according to those who have seen it. It would once again underline that though he may have a legal defence against the charge of perjury, in practice he has fied to the grand jury and

to the American people. Republicans reportedly burst into applause at a party meeting yesterday when the Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, said all material should be released. They also said that a decision on holding

ONE OF the world's most in-

fluential medical journals

launches a blistering attack

today on alternative medicine,

warning that its remedies are

untested, unregulated and can

pose serious risks to patients.

in the New England Journal of

Medicine describe how a nine-

year-old girl with a brain tumour

died after her parents insisted

she was treated with shark car-

A series of reports published

likely until next month, with the hearings themselves starting after the November elections.

Charles Rangel, a New York Democrat who has been a said: "The Republicans don't want anything to put this behind us. They would like for this thing just to sit and stew, reaching no conclusions until after November., But not all of a colleagues are so supportive: turning on him.

on Tuesday. Erskine Bowles, the President's Chief of Staff, Clinton was not relying on a narrowly legalistic defence, but this cut little ice. Joe Biden, a senator and former presidential candidate, was reported to have said that "some Democrats believed that the party would be better off in the fall elections if

crat, Senator Bob Kerrey of Nebraska, was asked if the White House needed to worry about party members calling for the

simply: "They should worry." much the most likely option.

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

tilage instead of chemotherapy.

A boy, aged 15, with another can-

cer, Hodgkin's disease, insisted

on treatment with a herbal

remedy and accepted conven-

tional drugs only when his con-

medicines were themselves

dangerous. Investigation on a 43-

In some cases the alternative

dition suddenly worsened.

Health Editor

At the same time, Republican sentiment is hardening against any lesser punishment than impeachment. Democrats have proposed the idea of a Consional censure – or censure plus a fine - but there is little room for manoeuvre, and impeachment hearings seem

The President's troubles may have an unexpected sideeffect, however, removing the most likely Republican presidential candidate from the field for the 2000 elections. George W Bush, Governor of Texas and son of the former president, said recent events had made him think very carefully. "Is this something I want to put my

impeachment hearings is un-

family through?" he asked.

When another senior Demo-

the President's own party is White House aides emerged shaken from meetings with senior Democratic Congressmen tried to reassure them that Mr

Mr Clinton resigned".

President's resignation, he said

Union sanctions on Serbia. The Foreign Secretary ordered the retreat after protests by Britain'a EU partners against a Foreign Office memorandum, leaked in The Independent yesterday, that questioned the legality of the sanctions against Serbia for

year-old man taken to hospital

with "agonising" stomach pains

found high levels of lead poison-

ing caused by an Indian berbal

remedy he had been given for

diabetes. A separate analysis of

260 Asian medicines found one-

third contained undeclared phar-

Marcia Angell and Jerome Kas-

sirer, say the uncritical accep-

The editors of the journal,

maceuticals or heavy metals.

The about-turn was seen as a further blow to Robin Cook's clamour from Brussels. reputation at the Foreign Office. His handling of the EU ban on direct flights from Serbia was attacked as "a shambles" by the

sisted the climbdown was trig-

Foreign Office officials in- humanitarian situation in Kosovo was now so bad it outweighed legal requirements to honour the air services agreement. Mr Cook said Britain

would now ban all flights from Yugoslavia, comprising Serbia and Montenegro, with imme-The climbdown came as more details emerged of how

Serbian forces have been killing Kosovo's ethnic Albanian civilians and adopting a scorchedearth policy in the province. Cook's follies, page 2

Anger at police over race killing

A BLACK musician who was found badly burnt in a London street, was unlawfully killed, an inquest jury decided yester-day Michael Menson, 30, was found wandering almost naked and still alight on the North Cir-cular Road in the early hours of 28 January last year.

The inquest verdict, which coincides with the reopening of the Stephen Lawrence inquiry, is likely to compound concerns over the way police respond to the suspicious deaths of

black people.
Officers initially believed that
Mr Menson had set himself alight, and, as a result, the scene of the crime was not sealed off for scientific evidence to be collected until 12 hours later.

His family later complained that officers failed to act on information provided by Mr Menson before he died, that he had been followed by four white men who were on a bus with him.

Scotland Yard said yesterday that four junior officers had had words of advice and constructive discussions with senior officers" as a result of the case. Three middle-ranking officers retired before a disciplinary investigation of their handling of the inquiry could be concluded.

At yesterday's inquest at Hornsey Coroner's Court, the coroner, Dr William Dolman, said the police should not be blamed for failing to find the killers. "From what we have heard, it is clear that theirs has been a difficult task against appalling odds, hampered by the absence of any witnesses," he said. "It is no blame on the po-

BY IAN BURRELL Home Affairs Correspondent

lice that there have been no an

swers so far," The coroner expressed his sympathies to the Menson family. "What happened that night was an appalling and horrible event. It is no surprise to me that you have been angry and deeply troubled and distressed by the circumstances of his death."

The jury returned a majority verdict of nine to one that Mr Menson, who had five hit singles with the group Double Trouble, was unlawfully killed.

In a statement issued after the verdict, Deputy Assistant



Menson: Severely burnt

Commissioner John Townsend said police were continuing their "thorough investigation to try and discover the circumstances surrounding [Mr Menson's) unlawful killing

Mr Townsend wrote in a letter to solicitors acting for Mr Menson's family on 25 August: "I accept that police action at the scene and for the first 12 hours was not as thorough as I would have wished."

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Nanonwide Life	(294.00	€5880.00	£1836.00

Source: Life and Pensions Money Facts - July 1998



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Cook in Kosovo climbdown

Sally Freeman, of England, practises for the platform diving at the Commonwealth Games tomorrow David Gray

BRITAIN WAS forced into a BY KATHERINE BUTLER humiliating climbdown over in Brussels Kosovo yesterday after a barrage of international condemnation at its failure to implement new European

its repressive policy in Kosovo.

Tories and as "cack-handed" by

the Liberal Democrats. It came as the European Commission in Brussels was considering legal action against Britain for undermining the effectiveness of the flight ban.

medical schools, hospitals and

the public must be challenged.

"There cannot be two kinds of

medicine - conventional and al-

ternative. There is only medicine

that has been adequately tested

In a stinging attack on the

herbal medicine and health food

industry, they say companies

have elevated their labelling to

and medicine that has not."

gered by the worsening crisis in Serb-ruled Kosovo, not by the The Government endorsed

the flight ban at talks 10 days ago, but insisted it could not implement it for 12 months because of a 1959 agreement with Belgrade requiring either side to serve 12 months' notice before suspending landing rights.

After rising criticism at Brussels, the Foreign Office declared yesterday that the

that prevent them making medical claims for their products, a law that also applies in Britain. Although most herbal reme-

dies are probably barmless, their use could lead to delays in getting effective treatment for serious illness as well as sometimes being dangerous in their own right. The danger signs may not be recognised because an "art form of double speak", people assume that what is natural must be safe.





HOME NEWS

Ministers plan to turn Britain into a nation of readers - with the help of television soap operas

PAGE 3

A US poll shows the class

FOREIGN

divide over Bill Clinton as the rich turn against him yet the poor approve more

PAGE 12

tance of alternative medicine by to get round legal restrictions

Alternative medicine a health risk, say experts

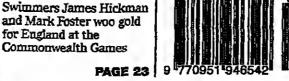
The US ruled out market hopes of co-ordinated moves to cut interest rates worldwide

Business

PAGE 16

and Mark Foster woo gold for England at the Commonwealth Games

SPORT



INDEX

HOME NEWS PAGES 2 - 11

Blair visits doomed Fulitsu plant Tony Blair visited the Fujitsu plant in his constituency with little more than words of sympathy to offer the 600 workers who face redundancy.

Lawrence errors 'deliberate'

Stephen Lawrence's family said in their final submission to the inquiry that senior detectives lied to ensure the black teenager's racist killers escaped justice. Page 5

FOREIGN NEWS

Germany's left targets poor east Germany's Social Democrats switched their poll campaign to the impoverished east to rescue their narrowing lead over Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats.

tran is warned of retaliation

The Taliban regime of Afghanistan warned that it would launch missile or air strikes against Iranian cities if it

BUSINESS NEWS

£1.5bn payout by gas group

BG, the gas transportation and exploration group that demerged from British Gas last year, is to make a £1.5bn payout to its 1.2 million shareholders. Page 16

SPORTS NEWS

Shearer stays with Newcastle Alan Shearer has reaffirmed his future to Newcastle after talks with manager Ruud Gullit. Page 28

Berasategui beats Rodriguez

Top seed Alberto Berasategui of Spain survived a gruelling three-set match against Martin Rodriguez of Argentina to reach the last eight of the Samsung Open at Bournemouth. Page 25

THURSDAY REVIEW

28-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

Hamish McRae

'George Soros has now lost a lot of money and when people lose money they tend to find it easier to blame the system than blame themselves.'

Paul Spike

Education

Becoming someone's friend in Britain is far more difficult than it is in America.'

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Cryptic crossword, section one, page 28

15-18



Recycled paper made up 46.03% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1997

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WE LEAVE EVERYONE STANDING BUT YOU

Serbia retreat is the latest in Cook's tour de farces



By Stephen Castle in Brussels

WHEN IT came, the climbdown was of breathtaking proportions. For days, beleaguered British officials had defended the UK's failure to implement a flight ban on Serbia because of legal niceties.

As Britain's isolation grew -Serb-friendly Greece was our only ally - the rhetoric hardened; how ran the argument. could we expect countries to obey international law if we were breaking agreements?

All that began to change on Monday morning when Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary and architect of the "ethical dimension" to foreign policy, returned from his autumn break in France. Within hours Mr Cook and Tony Blair had spoken and concluded that Britain's stance was becoming unsustainable. Later, when the mand of Mr Milosevic have Prime Minister spoke to one of Britain's chief critics, Jacques civilians, and through a Santer the President of the European Commission, the die was cast.

That the Government should have changed tack is not surprising. As one ally said: "Robin certainly did not want to go to the Labour Party conference with this building up, and with ing no effect. Britain being practically the only state with direct, daily air links to the 'Great Satan' [Slobodan] Milosevic."

in European capitals is that the about its ability to reflect and Foreign Office and Foreign Secretary could have been on such

different courses. It also shows the Foreign Office's lack of sensitivity with the situation on the ground in Kosovo where details are emerging of how troops under the com-

Foreign Secretary had worked shot many ethnic Albanian through much of August and was on annual leave when the scorched-earth policy are fixing row over Serbian reprisals to let many more - hundreds of thousands - starve to death that shows a lack of a sure Pressure for Nato interventhe ban was discussed, the intion is building among the westformal meeting of foreign minern allies amid signs that the rhetoric about sanctions is hav-The upshot of Britain's muddled foreign policy is that once again questions are being asked about Mr Cook's stewce, but Mr Cook himself

Had he been in Salzburg and dominated by bad news, over his remarriage, the Queen's state visit to India and the Sandline "arms-to-Africa" affair, another row was just what Mr itself in such a corner. Cook could have done without.

In the event the informal

LIGHTING UP

7.36pm 7.18pm 7.21pm 7.30pm 7.17pm 7.21pm 7.19pm

HIGH TIDES

AM HT PM
5.31 11.1 6.00
3.55 4.0 4.26
4.16 4.7 4.41
9.42 5.9 10.14
10.23 3.8 10.42
3.47 4.5 4.12
11.25 3.1 11.26
10.16 3.6 10.51
9.15 4.9 9.32
4.49 5.7 5.23
4.49 5.7 5.24
4.9 5.7 5.23
4.49 5.7 5.24
10.10 4.3 10.18
1 4.45 5.8 5.10
5.18 1.5 5.21
10.10 4.3 10.2
6.48 3.9 7.1
2.32 5.1 3.0
10.06 3.1 10.1
red in metres

AIR QUALITY Yoday's readings

SUN & MOON

WEATHERLINE

6.46an 6.49an 6.54an 6.40an 6.47an 6.44an

meeting was a lost opportunity. One insider said: "Nobody has a bad word against Joyce but nodody sees her as a latreached a climax. But even terday Castlereagh either. At some ministers had been poorthose meetings you are surtouch, because Mr Cook failed rounded by officials and junior to attend one meeting at which ministers at the FCO tend not to open their mouths." isters in Salzburg on 5 and 6 problems were about to re-September His decision to emerge. From the start, Mr

send Joyce Quin, the new Eu- Cook's dismissal of the diary rope minister, was much criti- secretary, and his announcecised by other foreign ministers ment of a new ethical dimenwho saw it as evidence of ar- sion to foreign policy, the been uneasy. His attempts to reother nations to press ahead widen its recruitment and to with the flight ban, despite create new sources of foreign their legal problems, Britain policy advice, have caused re-would probably not have found sentment. He was politically damaged by his marriage hreak-up. Mr Cook's allies

officials. Nor did the Sandline row, with the implication that ly served by officials, improve internal cohesion. Here, if nothing else, was evidence of a divergence of thinking between minister and departments.

As with the Sandline case, the machinery at the Foreign Office was moving in a different direction. Because of a 1959 bilateral agreement with Yugoslavia on air services, was probably the main loser. ship with his department has that the ban - which had been agreed under the British presdetected the determination of form the Foreign Office, to idency - could not be implemented until one year's notice had been given. At one level this reflects Britain's traditional ficial put it "Britain has always out." None of which bodes wellbeen a stickler for the rules and for Mr Cook.

began to suspect a low-level this is a strength, not a weakcampaign of sniping by his own ness because it helps us to ensure that others stick to the rules too." But a legalistic line on sanctions against President Milosevic ignored the words and sentiments of Mr Cook on the subject. It failed to appreciate the comfort that such public disarray in the EU would

give to the Serbs. As such fireflects the continuing differences between the Foreign Secretary and the government department he wishes to modernise. As one ally of Mr Cook put it: "The Foreign Office is an institution which is used to imposing its pattern of thinking on ministers. Now it's confronted by ministers with ideas of their own. You can see the tensions which diplomatic posture. As one of have not been fully worked



Robin Cook in his office at the Foreign Office (Photograph: Dale Cherry), and (above left) in India last October during the Queen's tour

BRITAIN TODAY FORECAST

over the coming winter.

Part of this was had luck. The

SE England, London, Midlands: Ory with long surmy spells. A light north-w wind: Max temp 17-19C (63-66F), E Anglia, E England: Sunny spells and the risk of a few showers, especially towards coasts. A light to moderate north-west wind. Max temp 14-17C (57-63F). Cont S & SW England, Channel Is: Ory with plenty of sunstine. A light north-west wind. Max comp 17-19C (63-66F).

Wales, NW England, Lake Disc, Isle of Riam: A slight risk of a shower but I by dry with sunny spells. A light north-west wind. Max temp 16-18C (61-64F). Cent N & NE England: Sunny spells and the odd shower, especially towards the coast. A light north-west wind. Max temp 14-17C (47-63F). N Ineland: Sunshine fading with thickening afternoon cloud bringing rain. A light to moderate south-easterly wind, Max temp 15-16C (59-61F).

SW, SE & NW Scotland, Glasgow, Edinburgh, W Isles: Dry with sunny spells, light northerly later southerly wind. Max temp 14-16C (57-61F). NE Scotland, Aberdoem: Sunty spells and a few showers, mainly light. A light to moderate north-west wind. Max temp 11-14C (52-57F). N Isless Sunny spells and showers. A moderate north-west wind. Max temp 11-12C (52-54F).

OUTLOOK

Rain for Scotland, Whiles and England on Friday but it will be patchy and light is southern parts; clearing by the alternoon in the north. Northern ireland will be dry with sunny spells. Rain in Scotland on Saturday but sunny spells elsewhere.

ing work with rainow tanes own ways.
Unit 12th October.
West Yorkshine: M1 between J43 Stourton and J42 (Lothouse Interchange) (M62).
Floadworks with 50mph speed limit.
Until 1st November.
Bucklogiementiles: M40 between junctions
1a (M25) & 3 Wycombe East. Three narrow lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed limit in lorte. Until 1st January 1959.
Berloghtre: M4 Beoween J8/9 Meidenhead

and J7 Stough. New road leyout with a 50mph speed limit in a new half-mile car-rlageway during flood raisel work. Until 30th November. Until 30th November. Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks or Avormouth Bridge, Until 1st Jenuary 2001, Suffoit, A14. Verlous restrictions in place. Until 31st December 1999, AA Readwratch: Call 0336 401777 for One 91st December 1999.

AA Readmatch: Call 0336 4017

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news, Source: The Automobile Assi
tion. Calls charged at 50p per min
VAI).

YESTERDAY

Coldest (day): Antemore 12C (54F) Wettwee: Loch Glascamodi, 1.10 ins Summest: Sark 8.0 hrs For 24hrs to 2pm Wednesday

1	123	_"'		
Aberdeen	7.3	_ 0	15	59
Anglesey	6.6	0.06	16	61
Avienore	5.9	0.02	13	55
Belfast	1.3	0.02	13	55
			18	
Blumingham Bournemouth	1.2	0.02		64 68
		0.12	50	
Bristol	3.3	0.04	19	66
Burdon	0.5	0.02	13	55
Cardiff	n/a			66
Clacton	n/a	0.01	14	57
Cromer	2.7	0.01	15	59
Edinburgh	3.0	0.01	15	59
Extroouth	1.3	0.0	19	66
Fishguard	0.8		16	61
Folkestone	2.8	0.10	17	63
Glasgos	3.0	0.04	13	55
Hastings	2.0	0.09	18	64
Hore	0.4	0.09	18	64
Isle-of-man	0.4	0.07	13	55
lale-of-wight	0.9	0.17	19	66
Jersey	2.1	0.23	19	66
Kendal	0	0	16	61
Leeds	1.5	0.01	15	59
Lerwick	2.5	0.05	11	52
Littlehampton	!			n/a
London	1.2	0.06	18	64
Lowestoft	2.9	0.01	15	59
Manchester	0.3	0.01	15 17	59
Mergate	1.4	0.04	17	63
Morecambe	1.1	0.03	13	55
Newcastle	1.6	0.01	13	55
Newquay				-1√3
Norwich	1.8	0.01	15	59
Oxford	1.6	0.03	19	66
Ross-op-wvc	3.7	0.01	20	68
Salcombe	4.6	0.06	19	66
Scarborough	0.4	0.02	íš	55
Shrewsbury	8.0	0.05	17	63
Southend	1.0	0.02	18	64
Southport	n/a	0.02	15	59
Stortoway	3.2	0.02	12	54
Swapage	4.6	0.20	19	66
Tanby	5.0	0.21	19	66
Torusay	3.U 4.2	0.21	19 21	
I POTUBATE	92	U.D1	41	70

RAIN OR SHINE

24 hours to 6pm (GMT) Tuesday, information by PA WeatherCentry

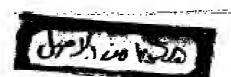
2.6 0.11 19 66

A HERDSMAN and his 25 cows were electrocuted yesterday in Moscow when severe gales blew down an overhead high-voltage cable. The man and cattle died instantly. Galeforce winds whipped across the Russian capital, uprooting trees and tearing off roofs. A woman was badly injured when the wind brought down a street lamp. In June several people were killed by a hurricane that brought down thousands of trees in the area.



THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY riigh A will move slowly east-northeast. High B will decline. Low A will absorb Low B before slowly filling and drifting north-east. THE WORLD YESTERDAY

c f1 52 1 24 75 5 27 81 c 28 82 f 19 66 5 41106 f 33 90



THE INDEPENDENT Thursday 17 September 1998 Reading: Every baby to get a book as millions are put behind drive to raise levels of literacy arces Britons urged to turn over a new leaf

MINISTERS WANT to turn By JUDITH JUDD Britain into a nation of readers Education Editor with the help of television. Soap operas such as East-Enders, Coronation Street and Brookside will be used to promote the idea that reading is

both essential and fun.

Everyone, from nine-monthold babies to 80-year-old pensioners, will be invited to take part in the National Year of Reading, which David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, launched yesterday.

He said: "This is a campaign for everyone. It aims to encourage parents, grandparents and friends to read and to get children to read and it is also about getting volunteers to be prepared to give a little time as mentors, both in and out of school.

Older people will also be given a chance to brush up their reading. Mr Bhmkett said his own interest in reading had begun with the "politically incorrect" Biggles stories and Enid Blyton's Famous Five.

Then he read Jack London's White Fong and Call of the Wild. "It was inspirational, I loved the poignancy of it and the way he portrayed the best and most cruel elements of nature." Mr Blunkett announced an extra £24m of money to pay for a £1,000 book token for every school. It follows £23m for books made available in January. Nearly £60m will be spent on a new daily "literacy hour"

in primary schools. A £1.8m television advertising campaign to encourage adults to read to children began last night and will run until the end of October Last night's advertisement showed fathers reading with their children and was broadcast to coincide with the European Champions League match between Man-

of reading is obvious, say ministers. In a recent survey Britain came third from the bottom in a literacy table of eight industrialised nations. According to the Office for National Statistics, 8.4 million Britons of working age (22 per cent) are incapable of comparing two pieces of information and one in four adults has very poor literacy standards.

Around 40 per cent of 11year-olds are not reaching the expected standard in national tests in English. Particular efforts will be made to help boys, who lag behind girls in English throughout their school careers. Fathers will be encouraged to read with their sons and a month will be devoted to reading in sports, with the backing of Linford Christie and Alex Ferguson.

Parents will be able to obtain a free booklet of advice on how they can help their children to read by calling the freephone number 0808 100 50 60. Every of a £6m project funded by Sainsbury's in partnership with the charity Book Trust. The company is giving away 1 million books in a new national

years ago with 300 Birmingham families, babies were given free books at their nine-month health check. Both their literacy and numeracy had benefited by the time they started school Two years after receiving the books they were three times more likely to be interested in reading than those who had not taken part.

Other projects will aim to influence young adults. One will promote cult novels for 16-to-25-The need for a national year school-standards minister, said

could not all be left to schools. We need a culture change to make sure this country values reading in a way it has not done for many, many years."

Phil_Redmond, executive producer of Brookside, said storylines including reading would feature in Brookside Hollyoaks and Grange Hill during the year. He is keeping details secret but said a new family would be introduced into Brookside in November in which one member suffered

from a reading disability.
The Conservatives attacked the use of soap operas. Peter Ainsworth, the culture spokesman, said: "This is an Orwellian nightmare which the viewer would find laughable and the licence-payer would reject as propaganda. What will we see next? Coronation Street used as a platform to promote the euro? Brookside as a vehicle for the New Deal?"

John Dunford, general secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, said the money was welcome and he expected baby will get a free book as part schools would spend most of it on fiction for their libraries, which had been depleted by recent cuts. With discounts, that would mean about 200 new books for each school, "The challenge is to get children In a pilot project begun six reading books in this age of computer games and wall-towall television."

Mr Blunkett said he would judge the success of the year by the shift in attitudes to reading. That might be measured by the number of books horrowed from libraries or sold in shops. Book sales had already risen since the Government began to highlight literacy problems, he added. · · · · · ·

Leading article,



Fathers are to be encouraged to read with their sons, and a month will be devoted to reading in sports, with the help of stars Peter Byrne

The boy who preferred Shakespeare

choose given the freedom of a

ENCOURAGING schoolboys to enjoy their literary heritage has always been a vexing task. First, they used to prefer playing football. Then they started watching football. And now, they prefer reading football.

According to a straw poll of GCSE pupils at William Ellis, a north London boys' comprehensive, Thomas Hardy and George Eliot bave no chance next to the England footballers Tony Adams and Ian Wright, both recent co-authors of their autobiographies.

does not feature on GCSE read- Seamus Heaney, all of which would put some people off the

BY DARIUS SANAI

ing lists, and many parents will prefer their children to be reading Turgenev and Dickens to Hoddle and Adams.

But there is no cause for despair, yet. Though the reading list was dismissed as archaic by several respondents, figures from Shakespeare through to JD Salinger and Harper Lee still figured as preferred reading by the 15 and 16-year-olds. However, Steven Veal said of

short stories and poems by

feature on the reading list: idea of books full stop," said They are complicated, they are Steven. "I'm sure there are hard to understand and you people who think, 'Well, these are all boring so books are can't see any connection to real life." But he is no philistine: boring'.' asked what text he would The others agreed: the age

bookshop, he picked Julius problem in itself, and they knew Caesar: "Shakespeare is about they were studying the literature as part of a learning jealousy and love and hate and violence, and people do exactprocess, not for enjoyment. ly the same kind of thing today." The "irrelevance" of some of the GCSE texts is not a generation gap thing, then, so much as a considered opinion.

like Shakespeare, where every- And Keir, also 15 and an Arsething's very realistic even if the nal fan, is reading Tony

of the GCSE texts was not a

decades: in 1976, Shakespeare, Chaucer and Hardy featured, much as they do now, Susan Hill and Stan Barstow are among the modern texts in today's

But perhaps they aren't modern enough. Salim Ameyor is a voracious reader of hiographies of hlack political fig-"But I thought some of the ures. Gustav Wood reads for short stories were meaning- more than an hour a night, but less," said Keir Kennedy"-not mainly chooses science fiction. The school lists have not, his classmates.

WHAT EVERY TEENAGER SHOULD BE READING



MICHELE ROBERTS, **NOVELIST AND POET:** (1) The Penguin Book of Women Poets (2) Beloved by Toni (3) Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte (4) Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys (5) Collected Works (6) Poems by John Donne (7) Poems by George Herbert (8) Capital by Karl Marx (9) The Interpretation of

Dreams by Sigmund Freud

(10) Lucky Jim

by Kingsley Amis



MD, PENGUIN PRESS (1) A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean (2) The Way of All Flesh by Samuel Butler (3) Money by Martin Amis (4) Going after Cacciato by Tim O'Brien (5) Great Expectations by Charles Dickens (6) Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain (7) The Sporting Club by Thomas McGuane (8) Herzog by Saul Bellow (9) King Lear by William Shakespeare (10) The Power Broker by Robert Caroow power works.



LISA JARDINE, PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH (1) Catch-22 by Joseph Heller (2) The Unbearable Lightness of Being by Milan Kundera (3) To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee (4) If this is a Man by Primo Levi (5) Moby Dick by Herman Melville (6) Beloved by Toni Morrison (7) Tha Man without Qualities by Robert Musil (8) Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie

(9) Oranges are not tha Only

Fruit by Jeanette Winterson

(10) To the Lighthouse by



GEORGE WALDEN, WRITER (1) Communist Manifesto by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels (2) Henry IV, parts 1 and 2 by William Shakespeare (3) The Essays by Michel de Montaigne (4) The Defence of Poesis by Sir Philip Sidney (5) Civilisation of Renaissance in Italy by Jakob Burckhardt (6) An Enquiry of Human Understanding by David Hume (7) Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov (8) The Underground Man by Fyodor Dostoyevsky (9) Tristram Shandy by Laurence Sterne



Book you can read in the dark

BY CHARLES ARTHUR **Technology Editor**

FRAN MATTHEWS, a 24-year-old PR executive in London, likes novels. She is reading Colin Bateman's Divorcing Jack before that she lapped up The Angels of Russia by Patricia Leroy. The difference was that she could read Leroy's hook in the dark.

Ms Matthews is one of the first wave of Britons catching on to "electronic books", or "ebooks", hand-held computers able to store hundreds of nov- PalmPilot: online books els at once and designed to be read anywhere. Battery-powered and with a backlit screen. her 3Com PalmPilot is the start of a change that could affect both how we read books, and how they get published.

"I suppose I might have looked weird reading it on the Underground, just sitting there,"



said Ms Matthews. "It felt weird reading in bed in the dark. But I can see it catching on."

The principal difference she noticed about reading The Angels of Russia, which she received as an e-mail sent by the Web publisher Online Originals, was that she was never

last page. She still doesn't know if it was a long book. You get to the end of chap-

ters, but it's hard to get a concept of where you are in the whole book. Actually, that added to the fun. Sometimes when you're reading a [paper] book you know you're getting to the end. With this it just finished. And I really liked it."

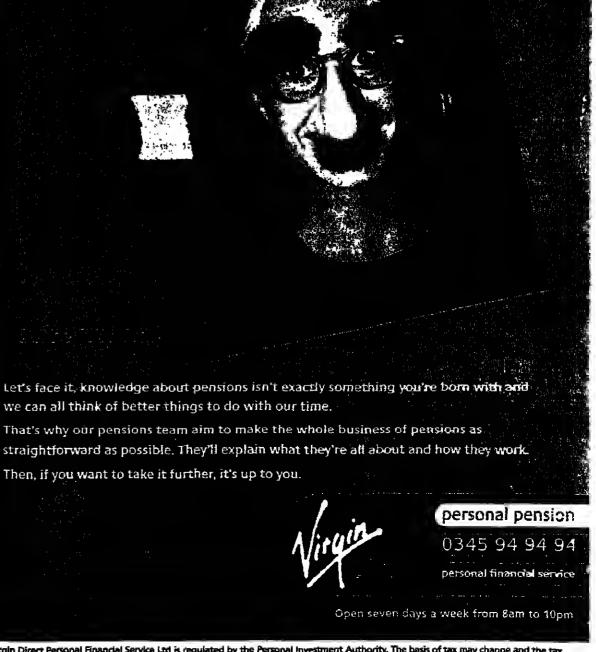
About 1.6 million PalmPilots have been sold, and more "e-books" will hit American shops within weeks, arriving in Britain next year. They are essentially stripped-down computers, idealised for reading text and graphics. Their displays are usually black and white and prices range from \$300 (£185) to \$1,500 (£940),

weights start at 20oz (0.5kg) and sizes as small as a paperback. For some paper-oriented publishers the dream of elec- sequent novels.

sure how close she was to the tronic books may prove a nightmare. Authors can sell directly to readers over the Internet, cutting out the middlemen of publishers, editors, printers, distributors and bookshops. But ona trail-blazer. Online

Originals, a "virtual company" that exists only on a laptop computer and a Web site, acts as a publisher for first-time novelists. You can sample a book via its Website (www.onlineoriginals.com). For £4, you can buy the content of any. Words and pictures will be e-mailed as a file to be read on a normal PC or a PalmPilot. The company's authors then

receive half the book's purchase price, a clear advantage over the paper system, where a first-time author might never get any money, despite good sales. Most authors are given an advance only for their sub-



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Blair has only sympathy for doomed plant

FUJITSU'S SLOGAN, "Every- BY CLARE GARNER thing is possible", was borrowed yesterday by Tony Blair as he explained to 600 workers from the Japanese-owned semi-conductor factory in his constituency that he was not to blame for them being made re-

The Prime Minister managed to utter enough soothing words to win applause, despite those words offering not much more than condolences. His presence buoyed the spirits of those soon to be unemployed. But only until he left; then the bleakness of their prospects

weighed down on them again.
The Prime Minister's visit
was the fulfilment of a promise made two weeks ago, on the day the Japanese factory added its name to the lengthening list of recent closures in the Northeast. Given that the doomed plant fell within Mr Blair's Sedgefield constituency, be could hardly ignore it. So instead, he packaged up the bad news with the good, and embarked on a three-and-a-half hour, carefully choreographed charm offensive that culminated in the unveiling of a

plaque at Avco Trust. The financial services company, housed in a new, purpose-built office on Doxford International Business Park, with its 220 new jobs, was "a very great boost to the region indeed", he said.

But official openings and new buildings are no guarantee against disaster, as the workers at Fujitsu have learnt. Their plant was opened by the Queen in 1991 - as was the Siemens microchip plant in nearby north Tyneside, which recently announced its closure with the loss of 1,100 jobs.

"I'm sure Mr Blair isn't stands that."
going to he able to offer us anyBut no m thing," said one Fujitsu employee, arriving for work at 8am yesterday. "Absolutely nothing," agreed another. "His visit is six months' late. It's not going to help us now."

But, against the odds, Mr Blair managed to give them something. At the end of individual chats and a speech in the broke into spontaneous applause. He had told them that he cared, he would do everything he could to ameliorate the situation, and, above all what had happened was not his fault.

Steven Fozzard, representative of Fujitsu's employee committee forum, said the workers were impressed that Mr Bjair had taken the trouble to visit. "He was clearly behind schedule but that wasn't going to stoo him speaking to people one to one." he said. "The general view is that he has come here to try and give us as much assistance as possible ... We're 600 people, but we have partners, and the impact on family life is important. I am sure, as a family man, Mr Blair under-

But no matter how much sympathy Mr Blair expressed the overall feeling after be left was one of anti-climax. "There's no way he was going to turn round and say, Tve got a job for you,' and we all want to hear those words," said Mr Fozzard.

"This is devastation. This plant and companies like it in the North-east were brought area. People who came here seven years ago never dreamt this would happen. This was



Tony Blair leaving the Fujitsu factory at Newton Aycliffe after commiserating with workers about the loss of their jobs

for life."

Mr Blair spent over an hour inside the Fujitsu building at Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham. He met the task force set up by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Peter Mandelson, talked to staff and, finally, inspected the so-called "opportunity centre" in the foyer, where social security leaflets and pamphlets with titles such

Now?" vied for prominence.

But the view of most employees is that there is precisely nothing in the North-east now. and they are planning to move away from the region. "I don't fancy my chances of getting a job round here," said Paul Atkinson, a product supervisor. Graham Clark, an apprentice technician who has worked at

sunrise industry. This was jobs as "Be Better Off Working. Have the plant for three years, for life."

You Seen What's Out There agreed. "The Government is trying to help us get jobs, but the prospects of getting a job in the area are very bleak."

The bad news for the Northeast comes almost daily. Staff at the engineering giant Vickers are bracing themselves for an announcement of job cuts and partial closure of one of its two tank factories at Newcastle and Leeds. The Newcastle

plant, which employs 600 peo-ple, is thought to be more at risk. After Figure, Mr Blair sped on

to the Avco Trust, via the buge ly successful Nissan plant in Sunderland, but was confronted there by a posse of protesters from the US crane-maker Grove Cranes, which has just announced the closure of its Northeast operation, with the loss of to advantage, Mr Blair's fast re-

sponse unit forestalled any trou-ble by inviting the protesters to

a private meeting. We were quite overwhelmed to be invited in to see the Prime Minister," said Tony Lawrence, 53, who has worked at the crane factory for 29 years. "He listens to our point of view. He said he would do as much as he could... He can't wave a magic wand, as 670 jobs. Turning disadvantage he said, but we're over the moon

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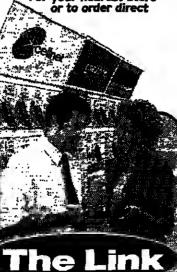
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UVF man released from Maze

THE FIRST UVF man to be freed early under the terms of the Good Friday peace agreement, Simon Corry from Belfast, who was jailed for the illegal possession of weapons, walked free from the Maze yesterday.

Treasury orders efficiency drive

THE TREASURY ordered all cabinet ministers to set tough new targets for improving public services yesterday amid fears they will waste the extra £57bn they were allocated this

Tony Blair, who is backing the Treasury's move, believes that much of the extra spending by previous Labour governments disappeared into a "black hole" and did not deliver better services.

Stephen Byers, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, has written to each Whitehall department, asking for urgent proposals on bow they will spend the budgets announced in July, which included an extra £20bn for education and £19bn for health over the next three

Mr Byers will negotiate new "public service agreements" with cabinet colleagues over the next few weeks. He has decided to publish the new contracts to increase the pressure on ministers to channel the extra more. cash into the Government's priority areas.

Last night Mr Byers said the performance targets would be challenging but realistic". But he could meet resistance because some ministers are unhappy the agreements will give

IN BRIEF

A PRISON officer was yesterday warned he could face a jail sentence after being found guilty of waging a campaign of harassment against a young French woman

who was his au pair and lover. Magistrates at Harlow in

Essex found Stuart Billingham, 52, who works at Shrewsbury jail, Shropshire, guilty of offences under the

stalking law. Billingham, a former policeman with 20

years' service as a prison officer, was bailed until 15

1997 Prevention From Harassment Act, the so-called anti-

October, pending reports. But the chair of the magistrates.

Mrs Pippa Ecclestone, warned him: "We consider these

AN SAS hero who became a vicar after leading the daring

raid that ended the Iranian embassy siege killed himself after being forced to quit the Army, an inquest beard

yesterday. The Rev Frank Collins, 41, was found slumped

in the driving seat of a BMW car in a fume-filled garage,

and depressed" after he was forced to leave his role as

Steroid-supplying GP struck off

the hearing was told. The father-of-four had become "down

Army chaplain when he wrote his autobiography last year

AN "irresponsible" GP was struck off the medical register

yesterday for illegally selling steroids and supplying large quantities of controlled drugs to addicts. Dr Michael

Thear-Graham, 36, from Newport, south Wales, began

seiling drugs after running up mortgage arrears.

offences so serious that custody could be considered."

SAS hero priest killed himself

Prison officer may be jailed

for harassing au pair

By ANDREW GRICE Political Editor

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, unprecedented power to interfere in the running of individual departments.

In his first keynote speech since joining the Cabinet in July, Mr Byers will today spell out the Treasury's hopes of bringing about a cultural revolution in Whitehall spending.

"We must get away from the of simply thinking that by throwing money at a problem. we will somehow make it disappear," Mr Byers will tell a London conference organised by the New Statesman magazine. "Instead, there needs to be a clear link between additional funding and the delivery of an improved service."

Mr Byers will tell ministers during the negotiations that their top priority should be to improve services constantly each year, rather than to spend

The targets, to be published in November, will restate some of the Government's existing pledges, such as cutting the number of schoolchildren playing truant by a third and boosting levels of literacy and numeracy.

But the Treasury blueprint will also add new promises to be met by the year 2002. They will include reducing sharply the number of emergency hospital admissions among the over-75s by providing better care in their own homes. All three-year-olds in Scotland will be guaranteed nursery places. while in Wales ministers will aim to halve the number of under-65s who die from heart

Tue Tres ministers their departments will not face cash penalties if they fail to hit the new targets. They will be judged by the public if they do not deliver," said one source.

However, the Treasury is bound to take account of ministers' performance during future spending rounds and when they bid for budget top-ups from the Government's reserve

Some ministers fear that Mr Brown will use the more centralised system to enhance his already strong Treasury powerbase. "He wants fingers in every departmental pie," one said. "We are all signed up to the Government's priorities but we have got to have some room for manocuvre in how we spend our hudgets."

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Spirit zone revived

HELP materialised yesterday for the controversial Spirit Zone in the Millennium Dome.

It had been feared that the zone - reflecting all Britain's religious faiths but stressing "the dominance of Christianity" might be missing, even though the millennium signifies the anniversary of the birth of Christ, But the New Millennium Experience Company, the organisers of the Greenwich Dome in south-east London, announced that this part of the project is "off the critical list".

"A number of organisations got in touch with us out of the blue," a spokesman for the company said, "and we have had positive discussions with them." The spokesman said the saviours of the zone could not be identified until contracts were signed, and £6m of funding realised.

Plans for religious gardens for the zone would be scrapped. New ideas included a map of Britain's "faith iandscape", showing the make-up of different faiths across the UK.

Lawrence police errors 'deliberate'

SENIOR DETECTIVES deliberately undermined the Stephen Lawrence murder investigation to ensure the black teenager's racist killers were not brought to justice, the public inquiry was told yesterday.

In a final aubmission on behalf of the Lawrence family, Michael Mansfield, QC, said the investigation had also been blighted by "insidious racism" within the Metropolitan Police. "Racism lies at the heart of why Stephen was murdered and why his mur-

derers remain unconvicted," be said

But the inference to be drawn from the number and magnitude of mistakes made by detectives was that they had colluded with the criminal father of one of the suspects to allow all five of them to evade prosecution, Mr Mansfield told the inquiry into Stephen'a death, which resumed yesterday after a two-month break. In a scathing address, he

nesses of lying in their evidence to the inquiry. He reserved his harshest words for the three men who led the search for the gang that stabbed Stephen in Eltham, south-east London, in 1993 -Detective Chief Superintendent William IIsley and Detective Superintendents Ian Crampton and Brian Weeden.

The approach of these highexperienced officers to fundamental investigative decisions was "reprehensi-

by all three of them are so substantial and so obvious that it is inconceivable that they were not recognised as such at the time. There is, therefore, only one sensible conclusion to be drawn. That they knew what they were doing and never intended effective arrests leading to

conviction to be achieved." Listing the links that had emerged between detectives and Clifford Norris, father of

accused several police wit- ble", Mr Mansfield said. "The David Norris, one of the suserrors that were committed pects. Mr Mansfield said: There is a matrix of quite exceptional coincidences and connections here which weave such a tight web around this investigation that only an ability to suspend disbelief can provide an innocent expla-

> David Norris, Neil Acourt, Jamie Acourt, Luke Knight and Gary Dobsoo have all been charged in the past with murdering Stephen. None of them has ever been convicted.

was abundant evidence that est manifestation of dishonthe three senior investigating officers conspired to conceal the truth, including the "astonishing and staggering disappearance" of virtually all police files and records congected with the case.

Their claim that they delayed arrests for two weeks in order to gather hard evidence was a "charade", he said, while a surveillance operation conducted outside the Acourts' home was a

esty was found in detectives' handling of a key informant who was treated "as though he were dirt that had just walked in off the street".

He said the inquiry had uncovered numerous examples of racism, including the failure to administer first aid to Stephen and the "extraordinary unwillingness" acknowledge that the attack had been racially motivated. Mr Mansfield called on the from the murder investigation.

William Macpherson of Cluny, to recommend far-reaching reforms when it publishes its report early next year. "The scale of shortcomings in this case is so shocking that clear and radical recommendations followed by swift action are

imperative," he said. The inquiry continues today, with final submissiona from other parties. It then moves into its second part, an examination of the lessons to learnt



A dress from Lindka Cierach's new autumn/water collection being modelled yesterday in Kensington, west London

Radio 4 listeners want fewer quizzes

RADIO 4 is to scrap some of its new lunchtime quizzes and hring back the 9am news hulletin after complaints from listeners about aspects of the station's five-month-old

The best of the quizzes and panel games will stay, but from the new year factual feature programmes will be run after the World at One two days a week. Radio 4 has broadcast a wide range of panel games at hmehtime trying to find what it calls "the new classics".

However, calls to the Radio helpline, letters and e-mails have shown that programmes like Mastermind, Puzzle Panel, Full Orchestra and X Marks the Spot are too much for listeners when they are on five days a week.

Features on arts, music and rural subjects are being commissioned now to start broadcasting in January.

The 9am news hulletin immediately after the Today programme was scrapped when the new schedule was launched in April to try to carry more listeners through into the post-9am programmes. The station suffers from a massive switch-off after all its news programmes and the new schedule was designed to hold that half of the station's 5 million audience that tunes in

BY PAUL MCCANN Media Editor

James Boyle: Responding to feedback from listeners

However, after conducting listener research and telephone polls, James Boyle, cootroller of Radio 4, has decided to bring the hulletin back.

"Listeners have told me and I agree with them - that the 1.30pm slot is not quite right yet," Mr Boyle told members of the Voice of the Listener and Viewer pressure group in London last night.

"In response to listeger feedback, I am also restoring the two-minute news bulletin at Monday October 5."

Listeners had complained that a "landmark" in their morning routine had disappeared with the two-minute summary, a Radio 4 spokes-

The BBC chairman, Sir Christopher Bland, yesterday acknowledged that listening figures for parts of the schedule introduced in April were "a little disappointing", and Mr Boyle said it had yet to win universal approval.

Listening figures since the radical schedule changes have been mixed; audience numbers were up, but the hours of listening were slightly down. They did indicate, however, that the audience for the halfhour quiz slot after the World At One programme has shumped by a fifth compared to the previous year when the World at One was longer and

was followed by The Archers. Sir Christopher said: "I think the interim figures are interesting but inconclusive. Some aspects of them were a little dis-

"We always said that judgment should not be short term, and the changes in the schedule wouldn't be a quick fix."

The next quarterly set of the

industry's official Rajar listening figures would give a better idea of how it was settling down, he said at the launch of the BBC's latest "Statement Of Promises".

Men fall for women who look like their mother

MEN ARE more likely to fall BY STEVE CONNOR in love with women who look like their mothers according to a study showing for the first time that the Oedipus complex has some scientific basis.

ry orde

icy driv

Scientists have demonstrated that male sexual preferences are largely determined by maternal influences in the early years of life — in other words if a woman looks like a ceived the hallmark of scientific man's mother he is more likely to find her attractive.

servations of sheep and goats ment-funded who were fostered by mothers from a different species but scientists believe the results could also be applied to human sex-

Ever since Sigmund Freud inordinately strong influence new-born kids to foster ewes.

quasi-sexual bond, the question of whether the Oedipus complex is real or not has become the subject of controversy.

Anecdotal reports have suggested that men tend to prefer women who look similar to their mothers but none have recredibility.

Keith Kendrick, a behav-The study is based on ob- ioural scientist at the govern-Babraham Institute in Cambridge, describes in the current issue of Nature the results of a unique experiment to test the Oedipus hypothesis. He allowed newborn lambs to be fostered by feproposed that mothers have an male goats and likewise gave

a lifetime preference for fe-

males of the opposite species. "We chose sheep and goats also recognise each other by fahumans," Dr Kendrick said.

When the fostered animals became adults the male sheep continued to prefer female goats and the male rams continued to prefer ewes even those both sets of males had mixed only with members of the edged that in his own case it own species for three years.

The female lambs and kids also showed a slight preference for males of their fostered species but this proclivity did not survive being brought up among their own kind - sugover their sons, cemented by a The researchers found that the gesting that women do not

male lambs and kids developed share a biological preference for

men who look like their fathers The researchers concluded "The fact that male offspring because they form close bonds are affected more than females between mothers and offspring, and apparently for life, is evijust like humans. They can dence that they are indeed more potently influenced by cial characteristics, again like their mothers. "This indirectly supports Freud's concept of

the Oedipus complex _.` Dr Kendrick said the results could not explain everything about why men ended up falling in love with their future part ners, although he acknowl-

may have played a contribution. "My wife does have some similarities with my mother in her facial characteristics, although her hair and eye colour are not the same."

Leading article,

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poll is a 'waste' KENNETH CLARKE last night BY COLIN BROWN claimed the £300,000 being Chief Political Correspondent spent by William Hague on the

party'a referendum on the European single currency was a

Barely hiding his contempt for the referendum, the former da. Chancellor told the Tory leader to "stop holding these back me or sack me' ballots." He said Mr Hague's leader-

that he was plotting against the leader had been created by Euro-sceptics to force Mr Hague into holding the ballot. The former Chancellor's attack sparked an angry re-

the membership of the party. The row over Mr Hague's referendum on the European single currency is now certain in holding the hallot of the to overshadow next month's party membership.

Tory Party conference and threatened to sabotage today's launch by the Tory leadership of the party's conference agen-

The Tory leadership had hoped to claim support of many rty constituency associations for Mr Hague's policy of ruling ship was secure, and rumours out entry to the single currency for at least another Parlia-

But Mr Clarke's comments over Europe wrecked any hope of the Tory leadership being able to present a united front for sponse from Tory Central the conference. Mr Clarke, Office, which accused Mr clearly stung by criticism by Mr Clarke of being out of touch with Hague over his refusal to take part in the referendum campaign, retaliated with a statement saying there was no point

Hague's £300,000 | Alzheimer's link to older fathers

CHILDREN BORN to fathers By CHARLES ARTHUR who are approaching middle Technology Editor age have a higher than average risk of developing Alzheimer's

A retrospective investigatheir father when they were

Some genes are known to contibute to the chance of developing Alzheimer's, but the magazine. new study, carried out by Lars Bertram at the Technical University of Munich, suggests that simply having an older fa-Alzheimer's, the average age of the father was 31.3 years.

Though the sample is comdisease in later life, a study paratively small it is in line with the knowledge that ageing is associated with genetic damage tion of 206 people who have the to the sperm, which carry the degenerative illness, but no father's genetic contribution history of it occurring in the to the child. That might evenfamily, revealed a statistically tually lead to Alzheimer's in the significant link with the age of offspring, "There's an accumulation of environmental factors which somehow alter the genome of the father." Dr Bertram told New Scientist

Similar effects are already known to occur in women, where mothers over 35 have a far higher chance of giving ther-average age 35.7-can be birth to babies with Down's a risk factor even in the absence syndrome, which is caused by of those genes. For those where a genetic defect in the embryo there was a family history of People with Down's syndrome are also more likely eventually to develop Alzheimer's.

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A pint of McMullen Special Reserve is pulled at yesterday's beer launch by north London rugby club Saracens

Paedophiles 'assaulted 300 children'

SCOTLAND YARD revealed last By IAN BURRELL night that paedophiles who infiltrated a breakaway scout association have sexually assaulted up to 300 children over worst cases of abuse ever uncovered in Britain.

vestigating, believe that the paedophile ring has been operating since the early Sixties. Some of their victims have been as young as eight.

abuse were released yesterday at the end of a series of trials and hearings involving scout-

Some had conspired with Brian Turner, 60, a notorious paedophile associate of Sydney Cooke, who was jailed for the manslaughter of 14-year-old rent boy Jason Swift.

To the scoutmasters, Turner was known as the "chicken-

Home Affairs Correspondent

master" for his ability to procure children - who are often the past 30 years in one of the referred to as "chickens" by

Turner and three scout-Detectives, who are still in- masters pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey to sex offences involving four boys, one a scout.

The scoutmasters all belonged to the UK Baden-Powell Scout Association, which broke away from the main scouting movement in the late Sixties. The group has 100 lodges and 2,000 boys.

Turner was jailed for five years in 1987 for conspiracy to ugger and indecently assault

tinued his perversion. Earlier this month Turner, from Enfield in Middlesex, pleaded guilty to seven counts of indecent assault, attempted buggery and conspiracy to commit indecent

He will he sentenced in October at Snaresbrook Crown Court with the three scout-

They are Keith Spratt, 49, Ward, 66, who have also ad-

Police disclosed that at least 10 other suspected members of the ring are still under investigation. They include teachers and social workers.

Five police forces are involved in the inquiry, which involves alleged sex offences against hundreds of children,

Spratt, who held a senior position in the association, is listed on the Internet as the editor of the Baden-Powell Scouts' news-sheet. Kearns was the assistant editor.

Spratt, of Bracknell, Berks, and Kearns, from west London, both pleaded guilty earlier this month to conspiracy to commit indecent assault between October 1995 and September

The pair were jailed last February at London's Southwark Crown Court for other offences involving scouts. Kearns was sentenced to two and half years and Spratt was given 12

Officers found a vast library of child pornography, 14,000 negatives and 350 videos at Kearns' home. The pho-Robert Kearns, 50, and Dennis tographs were of 52 boys, most

Standards planned for **UK** degrees

THE FIRST nationally-regulated standards for university degrees could be in place as early as next year, vice-chancellors said yesterday.

University heads meeting in Manchester overwhelmingly backed plans to establish "programme specifications" governing the content and quality of all undergraduate courses. The first national standards could be piloted in Wales and Scotland next year, with the system extending across Britain by 2001. The move marks a profound shift for universities, which have

right to set degree standards. Yesterday the committee of vice-chancellors and principals rejected claims that the new standards represented a national curriculum for degrees and said they would safeguard standards for all students. Student leaders said the move would help ensure that people paying the new £1,000 a year university tuition fees got value for money.

always jealously guarded their

Under the proposals, to be discussed tomorrow by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, academics will draw up broad specifications for each of the hundreds of subjects taught in universities.

The standards will show the areas graduates will be expectEducatioo Correspondent

depth of knowledge they must gain. The quality of individual against national standards.

Specifications will be set by academics working with the Quality Assurance Agency, the quango monitoring the quality of university teaching. Work on the first subjects, chemistry, history and law, has started.

A system of "academic reviewers" - effectively lecturers acting as expert inspectors - will oversee the traditional system of external examiners who ensure standards are maintained.

The proposals, expected to be approved by the English, Welsh and Scottish funding council within weeks, have been extensively revised.

Jim Gardner, vice-president of the National Union of Students, said: "It's not a national curriculum. It's trying to ensure that a degree from Bognor is the same as a degree from the Ivy League.'

Professor Ivor Crewe, vicechancellor of Essex University, said: "This is generally supported because it shifts the emphasis towards standards hut does not impose a grotesquely heavy hurden on

Drug smuggler fined £1million

A POWERFUL blow against By Paul Lashmar Britain's most notorious crime gang - the Adams family - was struck yesterday when a leading member was jailed for masterminding a huge drugs-

smuggling operation. Sean "Tommy" Adams, 40, from north London, admitted conspiracy to supply cannabis and was sentenced to seven and half years. He was also ordered to pay £1m within one vear or serve an extra five-year sentence. He laughed as he left the dock

Judge Michael Carroll told Woolwich Crown Court that Adams, and his lieutenants, Michael Papamichael, and Edward Wilkinson, both 40, had run an illicit operation of considerable magnitude.

The gang had been accused of supplying cannabis worth £2m, importing the drug in

three-ton loads. The jailing of Adams and his aides is a major success for the

Scotland Yard. The squad was set up to tackle drug-related organised crime.

The Adams family are believed to control a multi-millionpound drug-dealing empire in London and Spain. They have been suspected of gangland murders, gun-running and money-laundering. The family is also said to have had police officers and a Conservative MP in their pay.

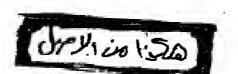
Papamichael was sentenced to six years and ordered to pay £70,000. Wilkinson was jailed for nine years for the conspiracy and possessing a revolver. He was ordered to pay £30,000. A fourth man, Christos Tsekouris, 43, skipped bail. He is believed

to be back in Cyprus. Tommy Adams came from a council flat on the notorious Packington Estate in Islington, North London. Now he owns a £450,000 town house in National Crime Squad, based at nearby King's Cross.



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Air traffic system is £86m over budget

THE INDEPENDENT

Thursday 17 September 1998

watchdog may be asked to investigate an £87m surge in costs for a computerised air traffic control system struck by a catalogue of failures.

National Air Traffic Services (NATS), which owns and runs the planned new control centre at Swanwick in Hampshire, has paid an American aerospace giant £216.7m - 75 per cent more than a £130m fixed-

price contract signed in 1992. The figure is also £54m more than the £163m costs reported by the Commons Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee in March.

Lockheed Martin delivered the completed system, designed to relieve pressure on air traffic control staff, to NATS in April. Staff supervise more than 4 million aircraft movements from premises at West Drayton, west London.

Gwyneth Dunwoody, chairman of the Commons transport sub-committee, said yesterday she might refer the NATS contracts to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), the spending watchdog after she investigated the figures, reported today in the IT industry magazine

Computer Weekly. "The whole of this will bear close examination by the PAC because there are some very straight questions that we have been asking and we want to receive straight answers.

"The [transport] committee will have a lot of questions about costs, about implications and about the efficiency of the contractors," she said.

The sub-committee takes evidence from the NATS and a safe separation between airthe Civil Aviation Anthority its craft.

THE GOVERNMENT'S spending BY PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent

> parent body, on 28 October. In April the Environment, Transport and the Regions Committee said it had been told by NATS that the computer system would cost £163m out of a total cost of £339m. The NATS annual report for 1997-98 reveals that the organisation paid

> Neither Lockheed Martin nor the Civil Aviation Authority was available for comment sterday. But it is understood NATS will say the £130m was intended as the amount to be funded through a capital budget rather than a revenue bud-

> The news of the rising costs is the latest blow to the Swanwick centre. A series of failures has forced senior managers to admit that the new centre, originally scheduled to open in 1996, now faces a struggle to open by the winter of 1999.

The Government announced in June that it plans to partly privatise NATS with private investors, including air traffic employees, taking a 51 per cent stake in the service with the Government holding 49 per

In the same month, ministers said they would investigate the computer software problems. The investigation would also look at the pressure which controllers are under at the existing centre at West Drayton. Some controllers have complained the airspace is so crowded that it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain



The river Don, at Penistone, in Yorkshire, turned orange by pollution from a disused coal mine

Cleaner will flow the Don

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY **Environment Correspondent**

A TREATMENT PLANT opens today for what may be Britain's

most polluted stretch of river. The River Don in South Yorkshire is a pristine trout stream complete with kingfisher when it emerges from its source in a reservoir. When it reaches Penistone, six miles

downstream, it turns orange. Drain water from a coal mine abandoned in 1918 is the culprit. The mine is full of lurid iron deposits which are deadly to river life. No insect, plant or fish can survive in the stretch of the river which flows

on to Sheffield. The £1.2m treatment plant will take the polluted water - a million gallons a day - into a lagoon where it will be cleaned and pumped back. Research is continuing to find a use for the iron residue. It may be used as a colourant for bricks.

The Environment Agency has joined with Yorkshire Water, the Coal Authority, a local building firm and Barnsley Council to develop the project. Half of the funding came

Volunteer scheme runs into trouble

PLANS FOR an army of "millennium volunteers* to revitalise sink estates and cut crime have become mired in controversy after the failure of attempts to recruit an unpaid

chairman for the project. Tony Blair is now expected formally to launch the national scheme this autumn. It will be run by civil servants after national advertisements did not produce a suitable figure willing to do the job without pay. Despite £15m start-up fund-

By Fran Abrams Westminster Correspondent

repeated assertions that the project was a permanent one, voluntary groups were shocked to be told at a recent meeting that they must seek their own funds after two years.

Some have also complained that they cannot run schemes for the money they are being offered - a maximum of £50,000 a year for two years.

The programme was the

Secretary of State for Education and Employment, and the groups say both he and his junior minister Margaret Hodge are deeply committed to it. But some groups are now accusing civil servants of hijacking it and

watering down its aims. Advertisements for a millennium volunteers chairman brought only 35 applicants and none was deemed suitable. It has been reported that Victor Adebowale, director of the Centrepoint charity for homewere approached but turned down the post. Now it will be run from a unit

in the Department for Education and Employment that is being headed temporarily by Chris Wells, formerly in charge of the department's millennium

Mr Blair is expected to launch nine pilot projects for which contracts have been let, told that government funding ranging from community service volunteers schemes in cost of its programme. Others ing from the windfall tax and brainchild of David Blunkett, less people, and John Baker, Sunderland and Southwark, complained that a good idea ture of the programme."

chairman of National Power, south London, to a British Trust for Conservation Volunteers programme in Exeter.

Community service volunteers in Southwark are helping to raise reading levels in schools, working in parks and helping police with crime prevention. Elisabeth Hoodless, executive director of community service volunteers, has written to Mrs Hodge asking for help after being

will not meet the £80,000 annual

crats and had suffered a loss of vision. Credible applicants had been ignored. "There was a risk that the civil servants would not be able to keep a powerful, energetic chairman in check," one said. "They wanted something controllable."

A DfEE spokeswornan said there was no question of the scheme being "hijacked", and added: "The establishment of a unit within the department will help to secure the long-term fu-



mugglef Amillion



M&S poses **UK** jobs threat

EMPLOYMENT By Barrie Clement Labour Editor

MARKS & SPENCER is in danger of turning into "Marks & Sharks" for urging its suppliers to make more of their goods abroad to keep costs and prices down, a delegate warned the TUC Congress yesterday.

Because the company set the benchmark for other retailers, up to 100,000 jobs were at risk, said Sheila Bearcroft of the GMB general union.

The company used to boast that 90 per cent of its goods were British-made. But now, Ms Bearcroft said, the proportion had dropped to 70 per cent and was set to decline further now that the retailer had told its 15 top suppliers that they may have to use more cheap, foreign labour. "Marks & Spencer is rightly famous for selling quality British goods. It will rightly be called Marks & Sharks if it sells British jobs down the river," she said.

A spokesman for the retailer said it was essential that suppliers remained "profitable and progressive". "If we allowed M&S to become less competitive then the impact on the British clothing and textile industry really would be disastrous."



Sheila Bearcroft holding a blow-up shark as she accuses M&S of putting profits before jobs Owen Humph ries

Unions fight over Britain joining euro

A ROW OVER Britain's potential entry to the European single currency erupted at the TUC yesterday with leaders of the country's higgest unions warning that scrapping the pound would lead to soaring unem-

ployment.
The deep divisions within the union movement were laid bare as both supporters and opponents of the euro attacked the Government's "wait and see" stance on membership of the economic and monetary union.

John Monks, TUC general secretary, told the conference in Blackpool that a decision to join the euro would boost the economy with cuts in interest rates in the long-term and called on the Prime Minister to give clearer leadership on early entry to the monetary union. However, Bill Morris, gen-

eral secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, voiced the concern of an increasing number of unions that the nation was "sleepwalking" into a single currency and warned that the European Central Bank would impose an

BY PAUL WAUGH Political Correspondent

even tighter anti-inflationary straitjacket than that imposed hy the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee.

Mr Morris said unions had been told to keep quiet in recent years about their fears over the euro because they would damage Labour's election prospects, but debate could no longer be avoided.

To loud applause, he called on the TUC leadership to hold an emergency conference before any referendum on joining the single currency to allow all union members to consider its impact on their jobs.

The experience of the last few years show that full employment and the single currency do not mix," he said. "In the rush to meet the Maastricht criteria, unemployment across Europe has continued to rise.

"If you think the Monetary Policy Committee is invisible and democratically unaccountable you ain't seen nothing yet. Wait till you meet the European Central Bank - at least you know what Eddie George looks like."

Britain's two biggest unions, Unison and the TGWU, both oppose Britain becoming a member of the single currency and

are backed by several smaller unions in their claim that it would cost jobs, cut wages and lead to a crippling squeeze on public spending

Doug Nicholls, general secretary of the Community and Youth Workers Union, called economic and monetary union a "hostile takeover" of the British economy

Mr Monks said be accepted that many unions had doubts about monetary union but it was clear that the euro could be a bulwark of stability in a world reeling from economic turnoil.

"Staying out in the cold for the time being will look less and less attractive as we see the effects of the UK being excluded from the European Central Bank and the euro group of finance ministers," he said.

He was given strong support by Ken Jackson, general sec-retary of the electricians and engineers union, AEEU, who said that opponents of the euro were "flat-earthers" who failed to see that large sections of manufacturing could transfer from Britain to a cheaper and more stable Europe.

Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, urged delegates to back his campaign to pull Britain out of the European Union, However, the conference rejected his amendment

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Mandelson under fire on bonuses

PETER MANDELSON will today GOVERNMENT. chiding Post Office privatisation and "fat cat" salaries at the Millennium Dome.

Mr Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will be urged by delegates at the congress to clarify govern-ment plans for private sector involvement in the Post Office.

And the conference will expect him to justify £400,000 bonuses to senior executives at the Millennium Dome revealed in The Independent yesterday.

Mr Mandelson, who once worked for the TUC but left under a cloud, addresses the conference in the wake of overwhelming votes yesterday which were strongly critical of government policy towards public-sector pay and services. The 800 delegates also reg-

istered their opposition to the Private Finance Initiative which seeks to involve private money in state projects. The TUC further registered disapproval of the possible sell-off of air traffic control and the Royal Mint together with the semi-privatisation of London Under-

In anticipation of a cool response, the minister, regarded as one of the union movement's principal enemies in the Cabinet, will arrive on the platform with Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who is guaranteed a rapturous reception.
Ministers yesterday made

clear that there would be no wholesale sell-off of the Post Office, but union leaders will

AND PAUL WAUGH

demand to know whether the Government intends to sell 49 per cent of shares in the organisation or keep it under total state ownership, with more commercial freedom.

It is understood that there is a cabinet rift over the organisation, with Mr Mandelson favouring the sell-off of some shares and other ministers insisting that it remain under government ownership. The completion of a review has been postponed several times.

Derek Hodgson, leader of the Communication Workers' Union, pointed to a pre-election promise from Tony Blair that the organisation would not be privatised. "We in the CWU worked hard with the Labour Party to ensure that a change of government came about And we expect previous promises to be kept," he said.

Mr Mandelson faces further embarrassment after leaders of the TGWU and Unison, Britain's two biggest unions, seized on revelations in The Independent that three directors of the Millennium Dome were to receive huge bonuses.

Alison Shepherd, president of Unison, said: "It is just one more example of fat cats getting even fatter on a public project while the poor, low-paid public-sector workers are told they can't have a decent increase." Bill Morris, TGWU general secretary, said: "All workers should be treated equally."

Today's business

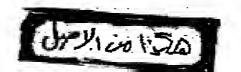
■ Debates on globalisation, Trident, child labour and the Irish peace agreement Address by Mo Mowlam, Northern Ireland Secretary,

on progress on the Good Friday agreement. ■ Trade and Industry Secretary, Peter Mandelson, speaks on the Government's proposals for fairness at work - followed by motions on TUC finances and

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Coming soon city centre cinema boom

IN A spate of cinema-building unprecedented since the war, more than 500 new screens are to be built in Britain in the next four years, bringing the total to more than 2,500 - the

highest since the mid-Sixties. The Australian-based firm Hoyts plans 150 screens within the next four years at 15 multiplex centres.

It has already identified sites in London, Liverpool and Wolverhampton and its first multiplex site at Dartford, Kent, is due to be completed next

Clearly, more than a century after William T Rock first charged customers 10 cents to watch a flickering moving image at the Vitascope Hall in New Orleans, the magical here of the cinema remains

"We certainly believe there is a lot of potential in the market in Britain," said a spokeswoman for Hoyts yesterday.

The cost of opening cinemas in Britain is higher than elsewhere so we have to be pretty confident. We believe that the multiplex approach, where there are cafes and restaurants at suitable sites will con-

tinne to be a draw. "And we do believe there is still room for a lot of growth."

Odeon Cinemas, a division of Rank Leisure, and the largest chain in Britain with 77 theatres (more people went to an Odeon cinema last year than to a professional football match) is also planning to open a number of new theatres. It is opening five multiplex sites this year with a further 25 over the next five

The company is spending milions of pounds refurbishing its cinemas, many of which are BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE experience of supermarkets

that have opened smaller stores in city centres as well as their suburban malls proves out-of-town is not the only way

to go. Other companies, including Warner Village – a joint venture between Time Warner and Villase Roadshow - and Virgin are also reportedly planning to open new theatres.

The revival of cinemas in Britain since the mid-Eighties is well-known, but the speed at which the market continues to grow has surprised many.

Karsten Grummitt, of specialist consultants Dodona, said recent research suggested that, on average, each Briton visits the cinema either twice or three times a year.

There are many in the industry who want to raise that figure to US levels of around five times a year," he said. "But there are signs that the market there is reaching saturation

The company has estimated that last year's admissions total of 139.5m could increase to 185m by 2002, which is an average of three cinema visits per

	FI	LM FIG	URES
	Year	Number of cinema screens	Total admissions
	1946	4,600	1.64br
	1950	4,583	1.39br
	1960	3,034	500m
	1965	1.971	32.6m
•	1970	1,529	193m
	1984	1,275	54m
		2 240	

person each year. This would still be a fraction of those who flocked to cinemas in their heyday, however. In 1946, people averaged 34 visits a year, at a time when there was not the competition from clubs, televisions, computer games and other home-based enter-

tainment The revival of the cinema industry in Britain has been attributed to investment in the theatres, better marketing and the development of US-style multiplex sites, the first of

which opened in 1985. These sites now account for 50 per cent of all visits. Better seats, easier parking and more films have all helped to boost attendances from a record annual low of 54m in 1984.

Yet some believe the film industry has also helped itself. Adam Smith, features editor of Empire magazine, said: "I think the industry has done a lot in recent years to try to improve the situation.

"Nowadays we have certain blockbuster films which everyone feels they have to go and

"The best recent example of that was Titonic, which people felt they had to see if they were not going to be left out of conversations with their friends. Fifteen or 20 years ago, given a few exceptions with films such as Stor Wors, that was not

the case. "The marketing of films is much more professional and it is increasingly aimed at the teenage market, particularly

the boys.
"The industry is still very, very strong and it will continue to be as long as it can still deliver a good night out with films people want to



Hockney and Hirst set for Tate

PICASSO, DAVID Hockney and BY DAVID LISTER Damien Hirst will be among artists given pride of place in the Tate Gallery of Modern Art, it emerged yesterday. Visitors to the £130m converted power-station will be able to arrive by boat: a minister said a service would link the new Tate at Bankside, the Tate Gallery at Millbank and the Millennium Dome at Greenwich.

The gallery, due to open in May 2000, will be Britain's first national modern-art gallery and will show 20th-century works, with the Tate Gallery at Millbank devoted to a history of

British art. Lars Nittve, the Swede who will run the modern-art gallery under the overall Tate director, Nicholas Serota, was present yesterday at a topping-out ceremony at Bankside. He said dis-

the street of the second of th

Art News Editor

which works would be displayed. They would be a mixture of 20th-century art from the Tate Collection and new commissions. But the new gallery would certainly contain a room devoted to the American abstract expressionist Mark Rothko, Giacometti and Brancusi will also be exhibited.

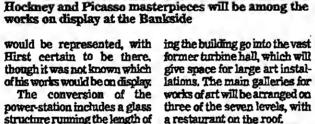
Among individual paintings to be displayed will be David Hockney's A Bigger Splash and Picasso's Three Doncers. The Picasso is one of the five major Picasso paintings in the world," said Mr Nittve. "It's an extraordinary painting. If you want to make your dream ex-

hibition, then it must be in it." He added that the current cussions were continuing over crop of young British artists



would be represented, with Hirst certain to be there, though it was not known which

of his works would be on display. The conversion of the power-station includes a glass structure running the length of the building that provides natural light and gives views of St Paul's Cathedral and beyond across London, Visitors enter-



Mr Serota said: "The Tate Gallery of Modern Art is already beginning to change Lonit. will also change people's borizon on the future. We have maintained a steady course and are confident that we will meet both our timetable and our budget." Nick Raynsford, minister for London, who was at the top-

ping-out yesterday, said: "The impressive but redundant power-station is being transformed into a vibrant gallery which will, I am sure, become a jewel in the crown of London's reviving south bank," He added that a riverboat service would by the year 2000 be taking visitors to and from Bankside, and would stop at the Tate at Millbank, where a pier has yet to be built.

The original power-station, designed by Giles Gilbert Scott. is being transformed into the modern-art gallery by Swiss ardon's skyline. It is our belief that chitects Herzog and de Meuron. In the high street. It believes the

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Giant bird-eating dragonflies cross the Atlantic

GIANT AMERICAN dragonflies By BRIAN UNWIN have flown the Atlantic.

in the Isles of Scilly and southwest England is sending waves of excitement through the Scillies, west of Land's End, inranks of British naturalists.

The insects have been identified as common green darn- main group of islands. ers, Anax junius, which occur far north to Panama in Central America but which, until this month, had never been record-

ed in Europe. It is believed these jumbo jets of the insect world - mea- and are equally satisfied." long with a wingspan of more than four inches – have been blown off course the four of blown off course to Britain while migrating south for the

Their arrival coincides with a spate of sightings of American birds, and follows a weathpattern involving depressions tracking across

One, a male with a distinctive green thorax, has been present for a week at Penlee Point insect on the east coast of

Their unprecedented arrival Nature Reserve, near Rame, south-east Cornwall, and up to six have been reported on the cluding four together on St Agnes, the most southerly of the

Steve Dudley of the British commonly from Alaska in the Dragonfly Society, who is writing a book on dragonflies and has seen one of the green darners, said: "There is no doubt about its identification. Lots of entomologists have now seen it

> tles, flies and smaller dragon flies. Attacks on hummingbirds, some varieties of which are smaller than they are, have

Dr Mark Telfer, of the Biological Records Centre of the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, near Wareham in Dorset, said that there had been reports of unusually large numbers of the

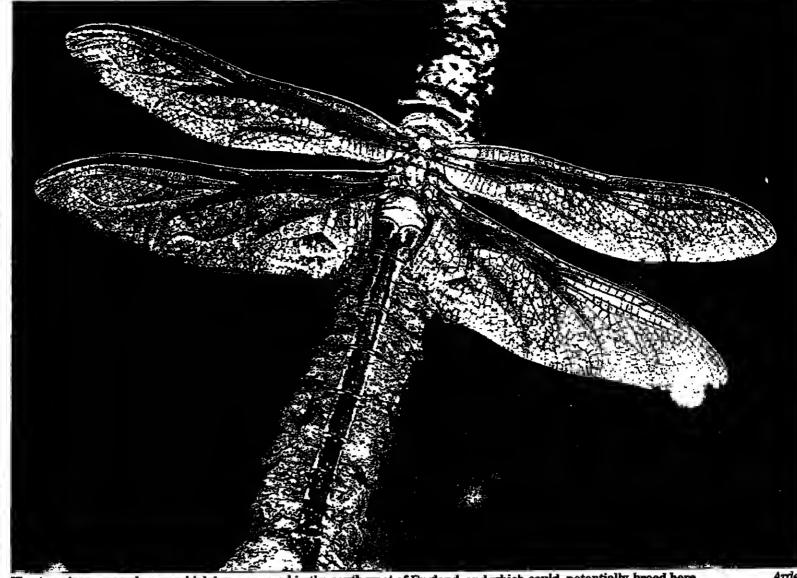
North America this autumn so there was a chance more would appear with strong westerly winds continuing.

"It is quite possible for such long-distance migrants to cross the Atlantic unaided in such conditions," he added

"If sufficient arrive there has to be a possibility a breeding population could become esished, although this would be complicated by their need to migrate south to a warmer climate for the winter."

The future arrival of green darners was forecast only in January in a paper by Adrian Parr, published in the entomology journal Atropos.

In it he wrote: "Sporadic appearances do seem highly likely. As with birds, several of the more mobile species [of dragonflies] appear to use the east American coast as a flyway and many have a flight pattern extending into September or October, so that they are potentially on the wing at the start of the period of autumn



The American green darner, which has appeared in the south-west of England, and which could, potentially, breed here

Straw to rethink victims' payouts

POLICE SUPERINTENDENTS' CONFERENCE

RAPE VICTIMS and relatives of BY JASON BENNETTO people who have been murdered may be paid more compensation under a review announced by the Home Sec-

retary yesterday. The initiative follows concerns over several high-profile cases, including a woman awarded £10,000 after being raped by eight youths in London, and an initial award of £18,500 to Josie Russell, who suffered dreadful injuries in an attack that left ber sister and mother dead. She was later given £79.000.

Jack Straw said yesterday murder, are appealing for furthat the Home Office was considering changing the tariff system to apportion more of the scheme's total £200 million compensation package to families and victims of serious violent crimes, although he stressed that no new money would be made available.

If the changes go ahead, victims of less serious crimes would get lower payouts.

Under the present compensation tariff relatives of a murdered person qualify for a maximum of £10,000 each. Victims of assault can be awardin Bristol

gle case of rape or buggery, a maximum of £1,500 for a sprained wrist and the top payment of £250,000 for permanent brain damage.

Earlier this week, the parents of Louise Smith, the 18year-old who was raped and murdered near Bristol as she walked home on Christmas Eve in 1995, were awarded £5,000 each. Gill and Robert Smith, a lorry driver who has been unemployed since the ther compensation for loss of earnings and stress.

Mr Smith said: "There is no 'coming to terms' with what has happened. How can you 'come to terms' with the rape and murder of your daughter?"

Mr Straw told the Police Superintendents' Association annual conference in Bristol that his department would examine whether victims of serious violence, particularly murder and rape, should get more money.

"(But) any change which would be justified to shift a balance towards murder victims ed up to £15,000 for the loss of would have to come out of the though Labour opposed the

Josie Russell: £79,000 for life-threatening injuries

conference. "Of course there's one stage individual forces a case of looking at the balance of how much is allocated to murder victims and for trivial

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme came into force in 1994, replacing one based on individual payouts

calculated by the courts. The previous government argued that the costs were rising and needed to be capped, al-

Earlier this year the scheme was criticised after an Austrian tourist who was raped by eight youths and thrown into a canal was awarded £7,500 for the first rape plus an additional £2,500 for what was classed

as a multiple attack. Mr Straw also expressed his anger yesterday at the failure of some chief constables to implement efficiency savings recommended in a series of reports by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary.

He accused some chiefs of not even bothering to read the reports and he complained that money was still being wasted by forces that refused to bulk-buy or tackie high levels of sickness.

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As an example, he said, at were buying 20 different types of blue dye for their uniforms and using computer systems that were incompatible, so they

could not share information. The Home Secretary said that if chief constables failed to make improvements be could, as a last resort, send in a "hit squad" overseen by the in-

spectorate to force change. Chief constables are known to be privately angry at the crit-

a thumb, up to £7,500 for a sin- same pot," he said at a press move at the time. Untrained officers left exposed by lack of staff

SENIOR POLICE officers are being forced to take charge of murders and other serious cases, including firearms onerations, despite not having any relevant training.

According to a study published today by detectives, understaffing has left senior officers supervising budgets and situations they barely understand.

In the report, one superintendent admits that his force failed to investigate properly the murder of an elderly woman because of a lack of experienced detectives. A second officer says he signed a £7.5m budget without knowing anything about it. Another superintendent talks of his "dread" of having to take charge of firearms incidents because he has so little experience in dealing with guns.

The officers' concerns are outlined in a study of six police cialists, which has a poor imforces - Greater Manchester, West Midlands, Lancashire, Wiltshire, West Mercia and Kent. During last year, super-intendents and chief superintendents were questioned about their work.

The report, by Dr Annette Davies of the Cardiff Business School, is published today at the ciation annual conference in

Its detail makes disturbing

BY JASON BENNETTO

reading. A superintendent in Greater Manchester discloses: "I have no firearms training, although I command such incidents daily, and since 1989 I have had very little public disorder training ... if it went wrong and if someone got shot and there was a big inquiry, 'well', they would ask, 'have you had your firearms course?"

A superintendent in Kent says: "What training did I receive? Zero ... in terms of budget management skills - and on the first day someone said 'sign this' and I signed for a £7.5m budget - it's a worry, isn't it?"

A superintendent from the West Midlands stated: "We're now creating generalists for top [officer ranks] rather than spepact on the quality of delivery. It's like getting a brain surgeon suddenly to be a bloody chiropodist." He added: "There are great problems now in being sued, for example, the Stephen Lawrence inquiry."

A superintendent from Lancashire police reveals: "We've found out about [unsolved] mur-Police Superintendents' Asso- ders that no one's done anything

about." He cited the example of a woman in her eighties who col-

lapsed and died in her home after a gang of youths attacked her bungalow. There was no de-tective inspector available to visit the scene and a uniformed officer sent a detective sergeant who failed to arrest a key suspects or cordon off the scene.

The study's findings will be used by the Superintendents' Association to press for change.

The report's recommendations to chief constables include a review of staffing levels, an end to the working culture of "long hours", an improvement in strategic planning and

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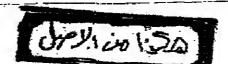
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he aged 22 or over and have a regular incorne (oridence is required), district to statum fluxes convect at let Suptember 1976. Arabable in England, Scotland and Welse, Written





Mother tells of 'botched operation'

A WOMAN spoke yesterday of BY LUCIE MORRIS her shock and devastation when she discovered that her ovaries had been removed without her permission during a hysterectomy.

The patient, aged 54, said the operation left her with bleeding and a leaking bowel for weeks afterwards. It was carried out by Rodney Ledward, a gynaecologist, at St Saviour's private hospital in Hythe, Kent.

Identified only as Patient

Four, she told a General Medical Council disciplinary hearing against Mr Ledward that five weeks before the operation in November 1992 she was told her ovaries were "perfectly healthy". But from a conversation with the doctor after Christmas that year, "it dawned on me the way be was talking everything had been removed", she said

plated or agreed to the removal of the ovaries, she said:

"No, not at all." The hearing was told that Mr Ledward, 58, who is accused of "serious professional misconduct" over alleged blunders involving 14 women, performed the hysterectomy so badly that two litres of blood had to be removed from Patient Four's stomach and abdomen.

The woman, who has four ildren, said she remembered tion "quite alarmed" to find a doctor pumping blood from her

The complications of the operation cleared up after nine days in hospital, Patient Four said, and she went home, But after a few days she discovered she was leaking urine in a constant trickle, and was readmitted to hospital.

It emerged that during the operation Mr Ledward had

leading from the kidneys to

"I was very, very distressed going back into hospital," she said. "I didn't know what was happening. I was told I had to come in for kidney failure, which was very frightening."

Mr Ledward, of Folkestone, Kent, denies 14 counts of misconduct. He was suspended from his post with South Kent Hospital's NHS Trust on 6 Feb-

which she acknowledged.

from a patient, Last December, after an independent review, he was sacked for misconduct.

Robert Seabrook QC, for Mr Ledward, told Patient Four that the gynaecologist had "great sympathy" for the problems she encountered and pointed out she had had a good relationship with him in the past,

Asked by Mr Seabrook whether she would have trust-

vising her that her ovaries should be removed, to prevent complications before the onset

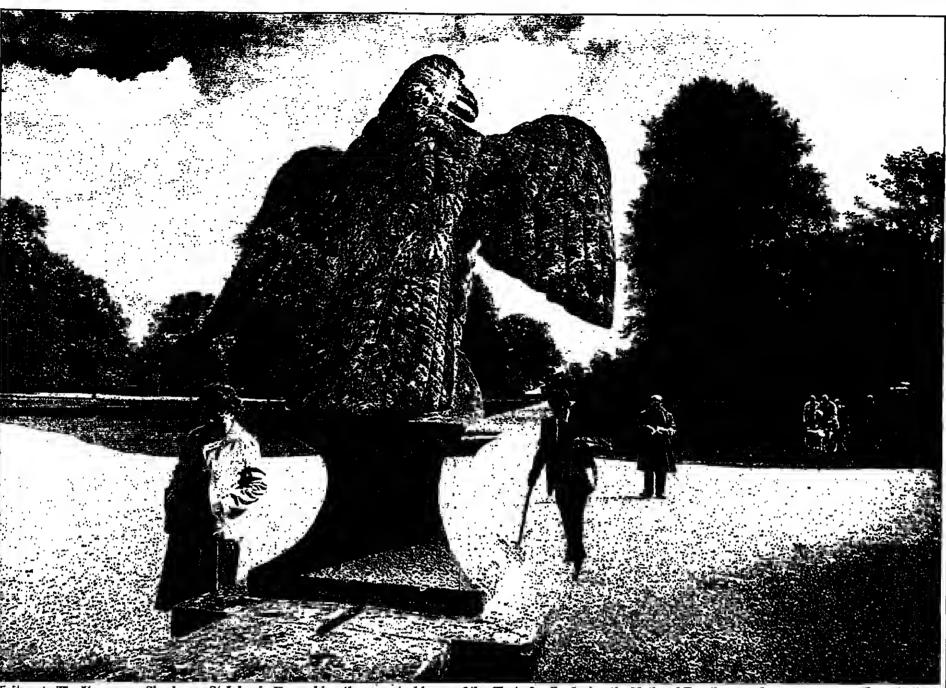
of the menopause, she said: "I would have considered it, but I never had that conversation." Patient Four consulted a solicitor six months after the operation. Her claim for damages

was settled in 1995. Mr Ledward has 33 years of his personal gain. professional experience and is

obstetrics.

Fourteen women are alleged to have suffered because of his incompetence while he was working at the William Harvey NHS Hospital, Ashford, Kent, and St Saviour's between 1989 and 1996. It is also claimed that he tried to persuade NHS patients to opt for private care for

The hearing is expected to a published authority on drug last another seven days.



Visitors to The Vyne, near Sherborne St John, in Hampshire, the ancestral home of the Chute family, during the National Trust's open day

Swindling GPs prey on elderly

DOCTORS AND opticians in- By JEREMY LAURANCE volved in fraud are targeting nursing homes because redents are often confused and vulnerable and make poor witnesses when a scam is discov-

ered, according to a survey. Typical schemes involve prescribing new spectacles with stronger lenses to residents every few months and making out prescriptions for drugs that are never delivered.

John Flook of the Healthcare Financial Management Association, which conducted the survey said: "Nursing homes seem to be a favourite target, because their residents don't make reliable witnesses - if they are still alive."

The survey showed fraudulent schemes worth £8m were detected by health authorities last year. The average fraud yielded £50,000 hut the association said those detected were the tip of the leeberg. The total cost of fraud to the NHS has been estimated at £100m a year, only a fraction of which is recovered. This year ministers appointed the first NHS "fraudbuster", Jim Gee, who took up his post this month.

Examples of the scams, described at a conference in London yesterday, included a dentist who claimed payment for extraction of milk teeth ticular were still going un-Glynn Griffiths | from a patient aged over 100. In prosecuted.

Health Editor

another case, a dentist claimed for filling, then extracting, then filling again and extracting again, the same teeth in the same patient

One of the most popular frauds by opticians, revealed in the survey, was to claim pay-ment for tinted lenses when the customer was supplied with plain lenses.

Fraud by opticians accounted for a third of the cases, the largest proportion. Mr Flook said: "Opticians put in for sight tests they have not done or make up bogus patients. Or they claim for a new frame when it has only been repaired."

GPs charged for drugs that were obtained free and acquired medical supplies for themselves by writing prescriptions, having them delivered to the surgery and then removing the prescription from the practice records.

The survey of 74 health authorities, 60 per cent of the total, revealed 163 cases of fraud had been investigated in the past year. Mr Flook said most health authorities had stepped up their anti-fraud activities but swindles by dentists in par-

Epidurals in labour denied

NEW MOTHERS throughout the BY SUSAN DOYLE country are heing routinely discharged hours after giving birth, and their requests for pain-killing drugs during labour in emergencies. are being denied, the Royal College of Midwives said

The case of a mother who was discharged from St Michael's Hospital in Bristol six hours after giving birth was not unusual, it said. Pain-killing

THE FOLKESTONE RACE COURSE PLC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company will be beld at the offices of Nicholson Graham & Jones, 110 Cannon Street, Loadon EC4N 6AR, on 9th October, 1998, at 11,00mm, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolutions in special resolutions.

1. That aff intra virus acts or purported acts of the Company prior to the pessing of this resolution, including for the avoidance of doubt the appointment of its current directors, be and are hereby adequed, approved and ratifled.

2. That the articles of association be and are hereby altered and amended by the insertion of a new article 6An in the following forms.

That the arrices of sections to also the house in the symbol of any of them, and not provided for by on porcuant to these articles or not being capable of being given in accordance with these articles, and be sufficiently given by advertisement in one national dialy newspaper published in the United Kingdom and one local newspaper published in the Folkestone

area 4. That article 30.5 be and is hereby amended by the addition of the following words after the first

In this article (a) to each interest interest in more than one advertisement of the notice, the notice (a) the notice (b) the

Notes:

1. A member emitted to attend and vote at the meeting may appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote in his place. The proxy need not be a member of the Company.

2. To be valid, the instrument appointing a proxy and any authority under which it is excepted or a copy of such authority credited notarially uses be deposited at the registered office of the Company in a less than 48 hours before the time for the meeting or any adjournment thereof. Forms of proxy are enclosed with this Notice. Completion of a form of proxy will not preclude a member from attending and woting in person.

The autograph hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power to sell all remaining issued shares to Arena Leisure PLC at a price of £14.50 per share as soon as practicable after 20th Navember 1998 if the resolutions at the EGM are passed.

Registered Office:-Lingfield Park, Raccourte Road, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6PO

epidural drugs were being refused on request, and given only Anne Jackson-Baker, the di-

rector, said: "St Michael's is unusual because they are being upfront about it. But it is happening at many hospitals throughout the country, be-

cause of staff shortages. "If a mother wants to go home after a short time, she should. But many are going and South-west.

There are 32,803 midwives in home to shared accommodation, and awful bathroom facilthe UK, 2,500 fewer than two years ago, according to the United Kingdom Central Counities, and it could be too soon. "What is worse is that nercil register. The shortage is vous mothers, who fear they will not be able to cope with the pain more acute because more midof childbirth, are not being wives are working part time. given the option of having an The Department of Health

epidural. That is because onesaid it understood that mothers to-one care is needed and, bewere not forced to go home, cause there are too few but did so only if they felt able. midwives, they cannot have it." A spokesman said: "If it is con-The United Bristol Healthsidered clinically safe and the mother wants to go home, care NHS Trust sent a letter to then we agree. But the mother expectant mothers, explaining that lack of staff meant epiduhas to be happy with the rais could not be administered

on request, and that if a moth-Alan Duncan, Conservative health spokesman, said: er felt able, she could be discharged within six hours of "Labour has already proved a let-down for our health ser-The Royal College of Mid-vice. Now they are letting down wives said staff shortages were new mothers as well."

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Cowboy builders upset 100,000

gere article 6A in the following form:

"A.1 The Company may sell any shares in the company on behalf of the holder of, or person cutified by transmission to, the shares to Arena Leisure ple at a price of £14.50 per share, such price being in the opinion of the Directors the best price reasonably obtainable for the shares, if and provided that:

(1) the member did not apply for any shares in the rights issue by the company set out in a circular dated 28th March 1991, offering Ordinary Shares on the basis of 3 new shares for each Ordinary Share held at a price of £3.50 for each Ordinary Share and no communication has been received by the Company from the member or the person entitled by transmission since 28th March 1991; and

(2) the company has after the expiration of the said period of 7 years from 28th March 1991 by subsectisement in both a national daily newspaper published in the United Kingdom and one local newspaper published in the Folkestone area given notice of its intention to sell such shares; and

(3) the company has not during the lurther period of £3 clear days after the date of the advertisament and prior to the emember of person entitled by transmission.

6A.210 give effect to any such sale the company may appoint any person to execute as transferor an instrument of transfer of such shares and such instrument of transfer shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the registered holder of or person entitled by transmission to such shares. THE VAST majority of homeowners believe the Government should crack down be overcharged by unscrupube as effective as it is not recent executive by the registrates to see to the purchase monitor by transmission to such abures.

o.A.3. Arena Leisure pic shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase monitor shall its title to the abures be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the cale. The act proceeds of sale shall belong to the company and, upon their receipt, the company shall become indebted to the former holder of, or person entitled by transmission to, the shares for an amount equal to the net proceeds. No trust shall be created in respect of the debt and no interest shall be payable in respect of it and the company shall not be required to account for any monitors extract from the net proceeds which may be employed in the business of the company or in it thinks fit."

3. That the articles of association be and are hereby amended by the insertion of a new article 10.1.5 in the followants form: immediately on cowboy builders - a problem which prompts almost 100,000 complaints to trading standards of-

giving birth.

ficers every year. A survey published yesterday found that 94 per cent of the public helieve builders and other tradesmen should be legally required to supply a written guarantee of workmanship.

The survey of 1,000 people carried out by Skillbase, the home-repair company, and Commercial Union, the insurer, found that one in two people were concerned that they may a reputable company."

BY LINUS GREGORIADIS

lous contractors. A similar proportion (52 per cent) thought the builder may bodge the repair or home improvement.

The Government is considering 10 proposals to combat the problem, including a Government-run database of anproved contractors, and a construction industry kitemark to denote builders who work to an agreed set of standards.

A spokesman for the Association of British Insurers said: "Most companies have helpline services which enable policy holders to be put in contact with

JOHN SUTHERLAND

'More reading is happening than at any time in history. But who is doing the reading? The over-forties and the over-fifties'

— THE THURSDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4



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Popularity polls show class divide

LL CLINTON'S approval rat- By ANDREW MARSHALL g has increased since Januy despite revelations about s sexual behaviour and alles sexual behaviour and alle-tions of perjury, a New York middle aged, who think better mes/CBS News opinion poll owed yesterday. But the me yet further polarised over

President the crisis has been that at ashington and across Amer-L it is rare to hear a good ord spoken about President ass terms, and it is precisely e chattering classes who we the most negative view. Mr inton could say, mixing the hle and F Scott Fitzgerald, at the poor are always with , hut the rich are different. Those most likely to disapove of the President are ealthy people in their fifties. id they have sharply revised

eir opinion downwards.

10se most likely to approve of

m Washington

of the President. That coincides roughly with the pattern nerican population has be- of the economy this year, as wages have risen steadily if unexcitingly, and the poorest have One of the curious elements slightly narrowed the gap with

the wealthy.
The poll shows the Presicktail parties, dinners and therings of the smart in dent's approval rating at 62 per cent, up from 56 per cent in January, though the proportion of those who say he shares their inton; the country divides on moral values has plummeted from 41 per cent to 29 per cent.

The poll, broken down by various categories, shows some sharp differences. Eighty-six per cent of blacks approve of Mr Clinton, up from 81 per cent, whereas the figure for whites is 58 per cent, from 52 per cent.

People with incomes under \$15,000 have an overwhelmamong them is 73 per cent, up campaigns.

from 62 per cent in January. Among the rich - those with incomes over \$75,000 - his approval has dipped from 62 per cent to 59 per cent.

Age shows a more complex pattern. Support for the President in January was strongest among those aged 53 to 64. Support in that age group has fallen from 64 per cent to 56 per cent; in all other age groups it has increased.

There is a regional pattern, too. In most of the country, the President's approval rating has gone up by between 7 and 10 points since January. In the West it has fallen however, from 59 per cent to 55 per cent. In the South, where Mr Clinton's ratings were formerly weakest, they have shot up. Electorally, the figures will

not bring much comfort to the President. The poor often do not bother to vote. The rich are the most likely to vote and - cruingly positive view of the Pres-ident. His approval rating are the people who fund cially, in an election year - they



Bill Clinton with President Havel of the Czech Republic, who is visiting the US Reuters

Clinton's foes aim to expose evasion

REPUBLICANS INVESTIGATING Bill Clinton's alleged crimes have taken aim at what until now has been his strongest suit and could become his greatest liability: his public image. The release of a video of him testifying to the grand jury would add nothing new to alle-gations against him. But it could, and probably would, make him look even shiftier, and even less sympathetic than he

does already.

The video would, crucially, show that he was not penitent, as he has been in public in the past few weeks, but evasive. While Mr Clinton in public is warm and clubbable, under questioning by Kenneth Starr's investigators he hecame testy and irritable. A key weakness in Mr Clinton's case has been the dissonance hetween his legal claim that he did not commit perjury and the public perception that he did.

His lawyers say that as a matter of law, he did not. He kept to the definition of sex used in the Paula Jones sexualharassment case, which was the only one that he was offered. Monica Lewinsky says he went further; the President denies that. In any case, they say, it is his testimony against hers, and perjury cannot be proved without one other witness.

This is all very well hut the public has reacted with incredulity. That is why the President's enemies and friends alike have pleaded with the White House to change its tune and adopt a more credible stance. The video will show him being evasive and legalistic in the following exchange:

Q: [Was] oral sex performed on you, within that definition as you understood it, the definition in the [Paula] Jones [case]? A: As I understood it, it was

Q: The question is, if Moni-

ca Lewinsky says that while you

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

were in the Oval Office area you touched her hreasts, would she be lying?

A: That is not my recollec-

tion. My recollection is that I did not have sexual relations with Ms Lewinsky and I'm staying on my former statement about that ... My, my statement is that I did not have sexual relations, as defined by that.

Q: If she says that you kissed her hreasts, would she be lying?

A: I'm going to revert to my former statement.

This exchange reads badly on paper. On video, this portrait of a man under pressure would look much worse. The second way the video may damage Mr Clinton is by shattering his public image. The way a political personality is constructed, presented and assembled is a matter of high art in US politics, and Mr Clinton has presented himself as a folksy "aw-shucks" guy. Behind the scenes that was not always true. And under questioning by Mr Starr's lawyers, for whom he has shown contempt, he was often angry and confrontational, Showing that on prime-time television will do him no good.

There is a third, and perhaps more devastating risk. The presidency is held in awe by Americans even when the office-holder is not. Showing the man with his pants (metaphorically) around his ankles will make him look what he is: a suspect under questioning, not the nation's commander-in-chief.

The presidency is, in some respects, similar to the monarchy as described by the British constitutional writer Walter Bagehot. And the President's advisers would second his thoughts on how damaging disclosure can be: "We must not let daylight in on magic," he said.



A court artist's sketch of the President giving evidence to the grand jury via a video link

Ferraro loses Senate race

THE FIRST woman to be nominated for vice-president and one of America's most contro versial mayors left the United States political scene after elections on Tuesday.

The polls were primary races to decide party tickets, and give little indication about how the scandal around President Bill Clinton has affected the politi-

cal climate in America. Geraldine Ferraro, the only woman to be nominated for the office of vice-president, lost the Democratic primary for the New York Senste race to Charles Schumer, who had spent a record \$8m. He will now face Alfonse D'Amato, the Republican considered to be one of the most vulnerable in the Senate. Ms Ferraro was chosen by Walter Mondale in 1984 as running mate, but his campaign against then-President Ronald Reagan collapsed.

Marion Barry, the controversial mayor of Washington. had decided against standing for the post this year. Mr Barry has dominated the city politics of Washington for two decades as mayor, interrupted by a spell in tail for cocaine possession. His fall from grace was followed by a spectacular repentance

The victor in the Democratic primary was Anthony Williams, a bow-tied accountant who had trumped all of his more experienced political ri-

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington with restoring some fiscal san-

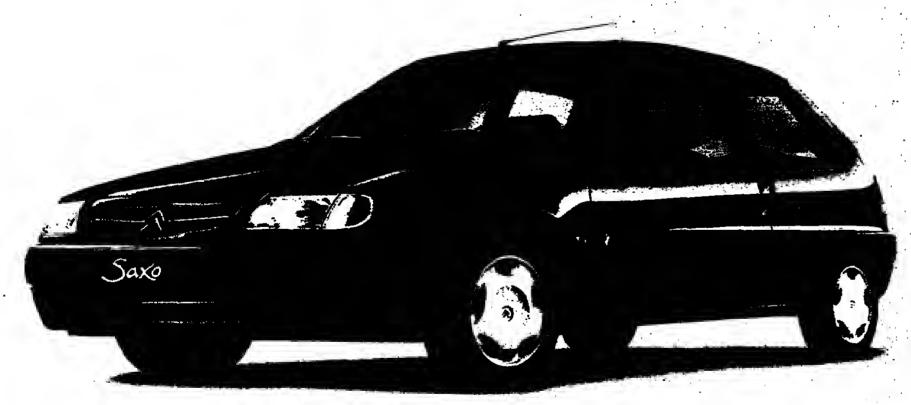
ity to Washington. In a city where most of the population votes Democrat, he is thought almost certain to win the mayor's office in elections in

Mr Williams is the new face of hlack politics: managerial, moderate and polished Mr Barry was radical and confrontational, a veteran of the civil rights struggle.

In other races, Humphrey III, son of a former vice-president, will carry the Democratic hanner in Minnesota against Republican Norm Coleman in the Novemher guhernatorial race. In Massachusetts, Thomas Reilly, a key figure in the prosecution of the British au pair Louise Woodward, beat off a rival to snatch the nomination for the post of state attorney general, a sign that his handling of the case won him political plaudits.

The primaries offered a grim insight into the political education of voters. Jacquelyn Ledgerwood polled a quarter of the votes in a race to decide who will represent the Democrats in November's Senate race. Mrs Ledgerwood died months ago, but too late for her name to he taken off voting cards. Some 39,000 people either did not know, or preferred vals. Mr Williams is credited the dead over the living.

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Saim Eastern Saim Promise Suppose Promise Sion the key for SPD

SMARTING FROM their defeat BY IMRE KARACS in Bavaria, Germany's Social Democrats switched their campaign to the impoverished east yesterday as they tried to shore

Christian Democrats. But on to the old communist regime. the evidence of two sets of Bavaria has shown, however, polls published since Sunday's that too many Social Democrat right-wing triumph in Bavaria, the left is leading only by a whisker. Gone are the days when Mr Schröder was sitting on a 12-point lead. The gap has been whittled down to three Bonn, the strategists are points, and is closing fast. At scratching their heads. Mr this rate Mr Kohl will be jogging past Mr Schröder on the home stretch early next week.

To avoid that fate, the Social all the main newspapers in their most promising hunting ground. It was the east that helped to elect Mr Kohl in the past two elections, and it is the easterners who feel most let down by his policies. All that Mr Schröder has to do is tsp into this discontent, and he is home

cult in this region, even if the up their narrowing lead.
Gerhard Schröder's party is still ahead of Helmut Kohl's cratic Socialism, the successors sympathisers remain just that. They detest Chancellor Kohl, but do not like Mr Schröder enough to vote for him.

At the SPD headquarters in Schröder has banished all things remotely controversial from his speeches, so as not to offend the left. At the same Democrats took out adverts in time, he showered voters of the so-called "New Centre" with eastern Germany yesterday, platitudes, and let his aides preach his pro-business gospel to that audience.

> The result is confusion. Some traditional Social Democrats have been alienated, while the battle for the "New Centre" has not gone as well as planned. The secret weapon,

That should not be too diffi-



entrepreneur, who had been minister, has turned out to be a dud. Mr Stollmann stammered so painfully and made so many gaffes in front of the cameras, that he had to be

So back to the poor, especially those in eastern Germany, where 20 per cent of the

voters live. That is also where ical of Mr Kohl's feeble campicked as shadow economics Mr Kohl's army is heading, paign, and will now be adding also to be exploited. fortified by the triumphant troops of Bavaria.

Edmund Stoiber, the conservative Bavarian Prime Minister responsible for the rout of mocrats have already produced the Social Democrats, has cancelled all engagements at home in his haste to the east. Mr Stoiber has been severely crit-

a fair measure of aggression.

vote, the campaign is bound to such a judicious moment of turn dirty. The Christian De- the campaign is a subject of posters reminding voters of that he was connected to Mr Schröder's three divorces. Now there are signs that the ar- Democrats' likely coalition

rorist Hans-Joachim Klein is

How Klein came to be ar-In the last week before the rested in France last week at heated debate. Suffice to say prominent Greens, the Social rest of the former leftist ter- partners. In a potential no doubt sticking.

would be at least three people who do not want to be reminded of this part of German history. One of them is Mr Schröder himself, who as a lawver defended an urban terrorist. The pro-Kohl media have seized the terrorist issue with relish. Some of the mud is

Suharto faces wealth inquiry

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

FOUR MONTHS after being driven from power, Indonesia's former president Suharto is to be questioned about allegations that he corruptly amassed billions of dollars during his three

decades in office. The government of his successor and former protégé. President B J Habibie, yesterday announced the formation of an investigative team, headed by the ettorney general Muhammad Ghalib, "The people want a clarification of this matter and so does Subarto." Mr Ghalib said. "We will meet the [former] president very soon and will investigate everything in connection with Suharto's assets and bank ac-

One of Suharto's sons, Bam bang Trihatmodjo, was banned abroad during an investigation of alleged violations of financial laws et a collapsed bank of

which he was part owner. Estimates of the wealth amassed by the Suharto family range as high as \$30bn, much of it through contracts awarded to their construction, energy, car and toll road businesses.

Despite demands for Suharto's trial and imprisonment. President Habibie has proceeded cautiously against his former mentor, and there are suspicions that the latest investigation is merely a public relations exercise. Last week, Mr Ghalib – like many in the cabinet, a senior officer under Suharto – expressed disbelief at the allegations. "Suharto is a former president," he said, "so he would not lie."

It is a measure of how much Indonesia has changed in the past few months that such allegations can even be raised in public. Under Suharto, insult-

ng the president was a crime. He has appeared on television to deny the charges, on a station part-owned by his daughter, "There is no proof that I have put ... money in foreign currencies," he said. "If it is true, you can contact Indonesian ambassadors in any country concerned to belp

Eta ready to call ceasefire before Basque elections

the government on the spot.

BASQUE SEPARATISTS are BY ELIZABETH NASH preparing to declare a condi- in Madrid tional truce within the next few days, ahead of next month's to lay down their arms. Mari regional elections, a Spanish newspaper said vesterday. El Mundo cited Interior Ministry sources as the basis for its re-

the Basque country has also is- of violence because that way

Karmen Garmendia, spokeswoman for the autonomous government, appealed to Eta to "hear the clamour of the nounced before campaigning Basque people and decide once opens on 10 October for Basque The regional government of and for all to renounce the use

The plea has prompted spec-

ulation that the conservative Basque National Party (PNV), the axis of the regional gov-ernment, has had indications that a ceasefire may be anregional elections on 25 October. Nationalist sources suggest

be unacceptable to the con-

Hints from the Interior Ministry in Madrid point to a truce being declared within days. Some sources suggest, however, that it might be designed to servative government, with conditions such as direct talks. attached.

of the majority of Basques". fire might be open-ended to put appeal came after it approved from the PNV to the pro-Eta a statement by a broad group- Herri Batasuna party plus a ing of nationalist forces known number of trade unions and as the Irish Forum. That urged social organisations, called for the start of a peace process an open dialogue inspired by comparable to that in Northern the Irish example that would in-Ireland, which may begin work clude all sections of Basque even before Eta agrees to a society.

ceasefire. the Basque town of Estelia, ment said, would there be a is an important factor in such

ceasefire of all expressions of Adding force to that formula, the Catholic Church repre-

Only in the second phase of The agreement reached in such a dialogue, the agree-

sented by the Archbishop of San Sebastian reiterated his support for talking first and moving towards a ceaselire

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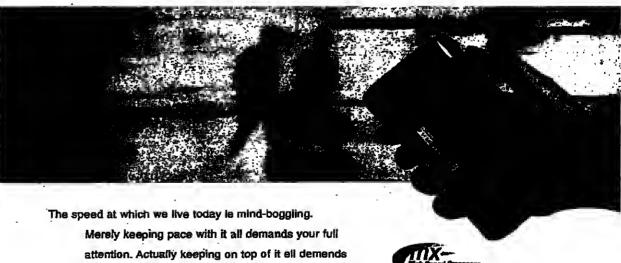
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Chimistan crisis

Russian police pounce on profiteers

DOZENS OF important-looking By STEVE CRAWSHAW men in suits and braided uni- in Tver forms gathered to chat in a grand, high-ceilinged room with Russian landscape paintings on the walls. It looked as cuted for unreported profits. though it might be some interminable cocktail party But this Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, group was involved in crisis warned that impending social talk, not small talk

north-west of Moscow, officials Tver and other cities tranquil and police chiefs are discussing with the provincial deputy governor how to cope with the upbeaval that has turned Russia upside down in recent weeks.

The deputy governor of Tver province. Yuri Krasnov, insisted that "the situation is under control". But this crisis meeting in Tver, which will be repeated every few days until further notice, made clear that the has changed here in a fears run deep.

To prevent things from getting out of hand, the city authorities have resorted to command economy methods to keep prices down. There is a phone line for citizens to report tax police are then dispatched

fenders, in the words of one official. Retailers can be prose-Russia's departing Prime

unrest meant that blood might In the Russian city of Tver, flow. So far, the attempts to keep have been successful. Tver region sells itself as "the soul of Russia" Certainly, most Russians would agree that their country consists above all of the various provinces. As one resident of Tver put it: "Moscow is in a different country." There is little of Moscow's conspicuous wealth to be seen.

In its very ordinariness, litdecade. Nine years ago it was still Kalinin, named after one of Stalin's political leaders. This was at the height of the Gorbachev reform era. But, as one man told me in Kalinin in 1989: "Perestroika hasn't reached us unreasonable price rises. The here." There were queues for everything, there was nothing "to put the frighteners" on of- to buy, and the Communists

Today, the former rulers are some respects, the mood is gone, though less demonstratively than in Moscow. The main street of Tver is still Soviet Street, the main square is still Soviet Square. A municipal board of bonour, where photographs of dedicated Communist Party members and

hang, stands abandoned, with

now full of Russian and imwould have been unthinkable just a few years ago. The shopkeepers have begun to despair of keeping pace with currency changes. Instead of constantly changing all the price-tags, shoppers are expected to become walking calculators. The labels in one store simply declare: "Multiply by a factor of 1.6

the prices shown." The shock of the successive price rises has left people reeling in Tver. Tatyana Kachanova, 33, a shop assistant, said: "Before, you could live on don't know. I'm an optimist.

were unshakably in control. I think things will revive." In less apocalyptic here than it is due to a greater supply of food.

per editor, said: "People are more patient here. The majority have allotments, or have family in the countryside." As honoured workers used to in Moscow, there were huge queues when the crisis was at its height. But the panic lasted Meanwhile, the shops are only very briefly in Tver, in sharp contrast to Moscow. The ported goods in a way that price of bread was frozen by decree, and the amount of bread was increased: after one day, when the bakery was virtually stormed, everything returned to a kind of normal. Unlike in

In Tver, where Russian stoicism is developed to a degree, they are faintly contemptuous of the Muscovite tendency to make a drama out of a crisis. If the riches of Moscow are a world away, so too are the politics. What the two cities have in common is uncertainty your salary. But now, we just and a sense of being buffeted on unpredictable waves.



A boy queuing for food in Moscow, where shortages have been much worse than in the provinces

FRONTLINE RAWALPINDI, PAKISTAN

The woman fighting crime and prejudice

Shamshad Ashraf looks out on to a battlefield. Her office itself is the same as a police officer's room anywhere, with its framed photographs, miniature flags and a thick belt curled up on a side table.

The battlefield is not the dusty, dirt yard outside where goats scavenge between the armed sentries, but the maze of narrow, twisting alleys in the bazaars beyond, where her 30-odd female officers prohibit their incarceration fight a daily war against murderers, rapists, drug smugglers and thieves, not to mention the prejudice of her

male colleagues. With her easy smile, lipstick and shining brown eyes Ms Ashraf hardly looks like Pakwoman. But ask her about her

job and the steel shows. "I do not think you understand quite how powerful I am," she said curtly. "I could protect the Prime Minister ingle-handed. I do not even need this." She slapped her .38 service revolver down on her desk with a heavy thud.

As for the attention of Pakistani males, nothing has yet bothered her in 14 years as an officer. "They know better than to mess with me," she said calmly.

Ms Ashraf, 41, commands a force of 35 officers. They have their own women's police station, built in 1994 and opened by the then prime minister, Benazir Bhutto. Ms Bhutto and Begum Ashraf should have much in common. Both have made it to the top in a harsh, male-dominated world and both, if the government's allegations are to be believed, have considerable experience of criminal activity.

The station, in the relativequiet "civil lines" area of Rawalpindi - a huge metropolis on the northern plains was less than busy yesterday afternoon. Eight constables were on crowd control at the High Court, eight more were helping hundreds of male colleagues maintain order at a fuperal for a religious leader shot dead by a rival sect.

Only one criminal was languishing in the station. Lying on the concrete floor of the

FROM HER desk, senior barred cell was a woman who house officer Begum had, Ms Ashraf said, stabbed her nephew to death. The cell holds 10 but, according to local lawyers, is regularly filled with twice that number,

Much of the crime dealt with at the station is domestic, although theft, public order, sexual offences and heroin addicts usually keep its officers busy.

To protect female prisoners, mainly from rape by male police officers, Pakistani laws



Ashraf: They know better than to mess with me'

overnight anywhere but in a women's jail. By the small hours the little cell is packed with women picked up off the streets simply because they were out without their husband or a male relative.

Ms Ashraf says the job is hard. "No one wants to be arrested. We are always fighting and being beaten."

The police are not the only ones being beaten. Physical abuse of suspects, bordering on torture, is rife in Pakistani police stations. The seven women's police stations are no exception. Nor is bribing the police to drop charges restricted to male officers.

Despite the rigours of her job. Ms Ashraf has a softer side. She has two children, has two university degrees, a certificate in criminology from the University of Australia and

writes poetry. She has published a biography of Pakistan's most famous poet and is a published poet. The subject of her verses? The plight of women in

JASON BURKE

IN BRIEF

Police hunt Bangladeshi feminist

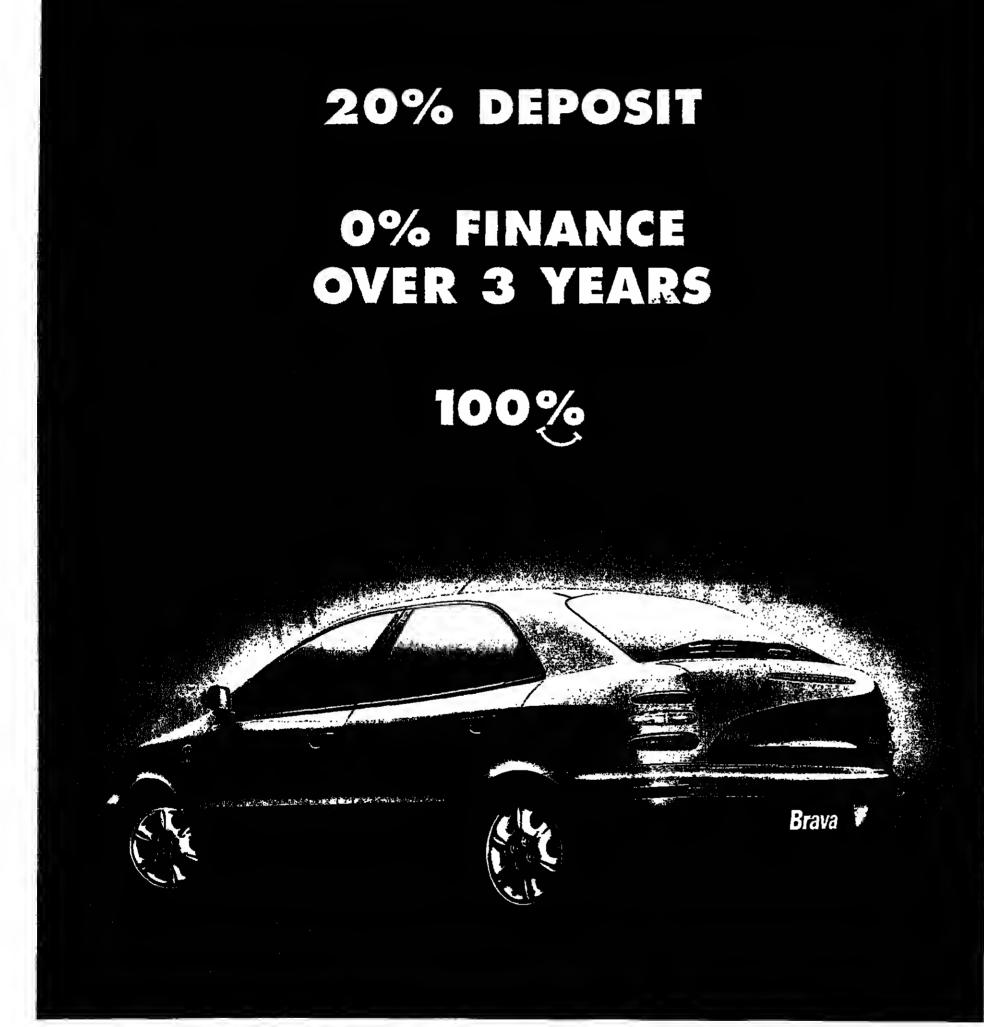
BANGLADESHI POLICE and media are searching for Taslima Nasreen, a feminist writer who reportedly returned to Dhaka two days ago after four years of selfexile in Sweden. Nasreen angered devout Muslims by making remarks critical of Islamic laws governing women.

Anti-government rally in Albania

ALBANIA'S FORMER President, Sali Berisha, has vowed to continue his campaign to oust the government. Chanting "Death to [prime minister] Fatos Nano!" Mr Berisha's supporters rallied in Tirana's Skanderbeg Square.

Vatican to investigate cardinal

THE VATICAN plans a joint commission with Italy to examine the case of Cardinal Michele Giordano, archbishop of Naples, who is suspected of complicity in loansharking, extortion and criminal association.



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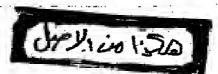
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Interest of the Independent Thursday 17 September 1998

Afghanistan crisis: Islamic militia threatens air strikes on cities as Tehran orders thousands of troops to the border Politics of

Taliban warn of instant retaliation

THE TALIBAN regime of By BORZU ARANI Afghanistan said it would in Tehran launch missile or air strikes against Iranian cities if were attacked. The threats came yesterday as Iran said nine more divisions were heading for the Afghan border for military exercises expected to begin at the

At the same time, Iranian naval forces were added to the manoeuvres and a commander spoke of being pushed towards war. Seventy thousand Revolutionary Guards, including paratroopers and commandos, have been in the border region since last week. Within days there will be 200,000 Iranian troops and 25,000 Taliban fighters facing each other across the border. Both sides have deployed tanks, artillery and rock-

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The manoeuvres contrasted with a burst of pacific rhetoric from Tehran, where the Foreign Minister, Kamal Kharrazi, said diplomatic approaches should taking military action. He said AND JASON BURKE in Peshawar

Tehran had mobilised "all its efforts" at regional and international levels to "ensure our interests" and had had some results. Shia Muslim Iran has shunned the extremist Sunni Taliban since it emerged four years ago. Tehran accuses it of being a puppet of Pakistan and the US, saying they want to use the Taliban to curtail Iran's in-

Iran also fears the Taliban is waging a campaign to wipe out the Shia minority in Afghanistan After the militia captured the province of Bamian, in central Afghanistan, on Sunday, Iran's leaders urged Shias there to "rely on God and resist the beasts."

However, moderates close to President Mohammad Khatami are less enthusiastic about a conflict. They have warned be given a last chance before against getting involved in a "quagmire" in Afghanistan sim-

سمكريم TURKMENISTAN TAJIKISTAN Afghan refugees in Northern Iran **AFGHANISTAN** 400 miles * AFGHANISTAN IRAN 6,000 troops at the border and 25-35,000 men under 70,000 troops in position at the border with 200,00 on the border with 200,00 on the way, Forces include tanks, troop arms. Small ex-Soviet airforce of carriers and heavy artillery. Also has ballistic missiles

ilar to the one the former Soviet Union found itself in when it imposed a pro-Soviet regime on the mountainous country in

"A direct clash is not in our interest, said the Qods newspaper, in Khorasan province, bordering Afghanistan.

"Though we can send a squadron of jets to blast Mullah Omar [the Tahban leader] in his stronghold in Kandahar," it

Others have suggested Iran should set up a militia of Afghan refugees, whose number is estimated at several million.

The public mood in Iran remains opposed to a war with Afghanistan, as people still have vivid memories of the 1980-1988 war against Iraq, when 300,000 Iranians were killed and 500,000 wounded.

Even so, Iran is most likely to use to some kind of forceful measures to punish the Taliban. The National Security Council, the top political and military decision-making body, has been exploring military options against the militia for several days. Iran says it reserves the right under UN charters forcibly to respond to Afghan

Earlier this week Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, told his troops to be prepared for "speedy and timely" action. Yesterday senior officers of the Revolutionary Guards, Iran's élite corps, said they were ready to fulfil any order their leaders gave.

The crisis was precipitated by the killing of 10 diplomats and a journalist by the Taliban when they seized the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif last month. Though the Taliban handed over seven bodies on Sunday neither side has softened its stance. Iran revealed yesterday that two other diplomats thought to have been

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Iranian women carrying portraits of the supreme leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, protest during a rally against the Taliban militia in Tehran yesterday AFP

oil divides neighbours

TO THE unpractised eye they BY RUPERT CORNWELL are just two sides of the same coin: two radical Islamic nations engaged in an in-house feud. In fact, hostility between Iran and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan runs deep, fuelled by a dangerous cocktail of geopolitical rivalry, religious differences - and, inevitably, oil.

Only in the most immediate sense does the dispute, which has seen Tehran mass 200,000 troops along its eastern border. stem from the murder of nine Iranian diplomats by Taliban militiamen when they captured the northern Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif last month.

The outrage at the killings was understandable enough. But the very presence of the diplomats in a town previously held by Shia rebel factions reflects the religious divide between the Taliban who are Sunni Muslims, and overwhelmingly Shia Iran. Long before the murder of the diplomats, Iran was providing bases for Taliban opponents. Its hostility now will only be fuelled by reports of large-scale massacres of Shias after the fall of Mazar-e-Sharif.

However, nearly all Islamic countries in the region are Sunni and do not share this instinctive enmity. Pakistan has long been a source of support for the Taliban, Less obviously, Saudi Arabia has extended financial and logistic support to the radical movement. Both are Sunni, and both are among the three countries that have officially recognised the Taliban regime. The other is the United Arab Emirates.

The West, too, seems to have quietly decided that the Taliban, however unpalatable some of its methods, is the horse to hack. That might not seem so tack on the Afghan base of the alleged terrorist Osama bin Laden. But the US has been careful to distinguish between the Taliban and Bin Laden.

After two decades of war and civil war since the Soviet inva-

ist militia seems to offer the best chance of pacifying and stabilising a shattered country. And a more stable country is a more suitable place to build a pipeline. So, finally, to oil, or, more exactly, the colossal en-ergy riches of former Soviet central Asia to the north. The prize for which the two regimes are vying is not only regional leadership. It is also the path to be followed by any pipeline carrying oil and gas from Turk-menistan and Kazakhstan to the deep-water ports in the south.

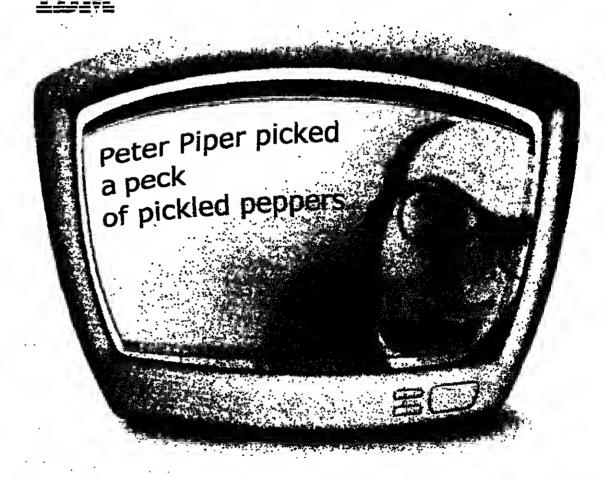
For the international oil industry, the simplest route would be via Iran, crossing just one border on its way to Bandar Abbas on the Straits of Hormuz. Unfortunately, Iran is still subject to US sanctions.

Hence the Afghan alternative. The Houston-based Unocal company and Saudi-owned Delta Oil are ready to go with a 900-mile gas pipeline through Afghanistan to a Pakistani port. **Both Afghanistan and Pakistan** stand to reap massive economic benefits, which is another reason for their de facto alliance. Their gain would be Iran's loss. Hence the suspicion that Tehran is keeping the fighting going to prevent the pipeline.

So, in the politics of oil as well, Tehran is also largely isolated from its neighbours, with the partial exception of Russia. Whether Iran likes it or not, the Taliban - which controls over 90 per cent of Afghanistan - will surely soon be recognised by the international community.

For all the belligerent talk from Tehran - and yesterday's closure of the moderate Tous newspaper, which had advocated a negotiated solution to the crisis - a full-scale invasion after America's 20 August at- is unlikely. Memories of the carnage of the eight-year war with Iraq are still fresh, as is the failure of the Soviet Union to tame Afghanistan during the same period. If Iran uses force to avenge the diplomats, air strikes will probably be the





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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Mayflower in Daimler-Benz link

MAYFLOWER YESTERDAY raised the stakes in the bid battle for Dennis by unveiling a strategic alliance with Germany's Daimler-Benz that would include the bus and fire engine manufacturer. Mayflower, which is fighting an agreed hid for Dennis from Henlys, said the Daimler-Benz alliance would cover distribution of the Dennis range and help with chassis development and the supply of major components such as drive trains and power units.

Mayflower is offering £255m in cash, compared with a cash and shares offer from Henlys which valued Dennis at £264m at last night's closing price. Henlys, whose offer is being backed by Volvo of Sweden, described the Mayflower announcement as "carefully worded rhetoric" which contained no firm agreement and would be of no benefit to Dennis shareholders in the short-term.

Business Post warns on profits



fell by almost half yesterday after the mail and parcel services group warned that full-year profits would be lower than expected. The shares fell 332.5p to 365p after the company issued a statement saying "earlier sales forecasting assumptions were unrealistic" and pre-tax profits for the year to 31 March 1999 "may now

only show modest growth over last year's figure".

The news followed a review of the group's trading and forecasts instigated after the company's founders, Michael and Peter Kane, returned as directors, with Peter Kane as chief executive. In June, the group reported full-year pre-tax profits of £19.1m, up from £16.1m the year before. Michael Kane, chief executive between 1995 and 1997, has now been appointed managing director.

Britannic to take on 400 staff

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE, the life insurer, saw its shares jump yesterday as it unveiled a £70m plan to recruit 400 more staff and transform its door-to-door sales operation into computer-literate financial advisers.

The Midlands-based company is boosting its national sales force to more than 2,280 as part of a programme to bring door-to-door life insurance into the modern age. Staff calling to collect monthly premiums will carry laptops

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FTSE 250	4758.60	35.30	0.75	5970.90	4428.30	4.33		
FTSE 350	2529.20	7,20	0.29	2969.10	2141.80	3.80		
FTSE All Share	2451.66	6.77	0.28	2886.52	2106.59	3.81		
FTSE 5ma0Cap	2091,80	1,90	0,09	2793.80	2044.80	3.97		
FTSE Fledgling	1170.30	0,40	0.03	1517.10	1140.20	4,40		
FTSE AIM	886.10	-1.00	-0.11	1146,90	862.80	1,44		
FTSE EBLOC 100	898,50	10.56	1,19		244			
Dow Jones	8059.66	29.09	0.36	9367.84	6971.32	1.85		
Nikkel	14197.70	-29.67	-0.21	18439.76	13664.74	1.07		

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UK	7.44	0.18	7.08	-0.40	5,13	-1.57	4.83	-1.80
US_	5.50	-0.22	5.26	-0.78	4.90		5.25	-1.16
Japan	0.43	-0.16	0.47	-0.17_	0.98	-1.20	1,48	-1.36
Germany	3.48	0.18	3.56	-0.74	4.02	-1.56	4.91	-1.30

Dollar	1.6764	+0.25c	1.5940	Sterling	0.5965	-0.09p	0.6274
D-Mark	2.8382	+0.98pf	2.8154	D-Mark	1.6925	+0.38pf	1.7655
Yen	226.44	+¥3.63	193.54	Yen	135.10	+42.09	121.17
£ index	102.10	+0.00	99.10	S Index	108.90	0.00	105.50

Brent Oil (\$) 12.87	0.27	18.21	GDP	115.40	2.60	112.48	Sept
Gold (\$)	288.95	-1.10	320.75	RP	153.70	3.30	158.47	Sept
Brent Oil (Gold (5) Silver (5)	4.95	0.02	4.71	Вазе	Rates	7.50	7.00	*at Spe

TOURIST RATES

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG www.bloomberg.com/uk

Australia (S)	2.7041	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.9
Austria (schillings)	19.27	Netherlands (guilders)	3.091
Belgium (francs)	56.64	New Zealand (\$)	3.135
Canada (S)	2.4490	Norway (krone)	12.2
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8085	Portugal (escudos)	279.0
Denmark (krone)	10.50	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.081
Finland (markka)	8.3987	Singapore (\$)	2.739
France (francs)	9.1967	Spain (pesetas)	232.4
Germany (marks)	2.7540	South Africa (rands)	9.678
Greece (drachma)	469.32	Sweden (krone)	12.6
Hong Kong (S)	12.53	Switzerland (francs)	2.275
ireland (punts)	1.0942	Thailand (bahts)	61.5
Indian (rupees)	65.16	Turkey (lirasi)	44298
israei (shekeis)	5.8972	USA (S)	1.630
Italy (ilra)	2717		
Japan (yen)	219.60	Rates for indication purpo	ses only
Malaysia (ringgits)	6.0372		

Malta (lira)

Bass shares slump on profit warning

hotel giant, slumped more than 11 per cent to a two-year low vesterday wining almost £800m from the company's market value after it stunned the market with a profit warning.

In a trading statement on the first 48 weeks of the year, the maker of Carling and Grolsch lager said that its pub and drinks nesses had been hit by wet weather, the UK economic slow-

SHARES IN Bass, the drinks and By Francesco Guerrera

down and two product recalls. Sir Lan Prosser, chairman, said: "We have experienced difficult trading conditions over the summer due to the poor weather, a general softening in consumer demand and other external economic and social factors."

The announcement prompted City analysts to slash their forecasts for 1998 profits by nearly

£50m to around £650m, compared with £477m last year. The downgrades triggered a wave of selling, which left Bass shares 97p or 11.8 per cent lower, at 725p.

Bass said its 2,600-strong pubs businesses had suffered from a slowdown in demand. Worst hit were houses in the Midlands and the North, where the combined effect of the manweather caused a loss of sales

and a fall in margins. The slump in the North offset a good performance by the upmarket restaurants and slowed down profits growth to 4 per cent from 13.6 per cent in the first half.

Profits in the brewing division were dealt a £12m blow by the recall of millions of cans of lager and bitter in the middle of the World Cup after a conufacturing recession and bad tamination scare at one of its

strength of sterling and lower sales of the Hooch alcopop wiped £11m from the profits of the international division. In soft drinks, unit sales of Britvic juice were hit by the wet sum-

mer weather and by a product recall which cost £3m. One City analyst said the warning contained "three surprises: the problems with the pub business, the extent of the

On the export front, the impact of the product recall and the problems with Britvic. Pubs were the biggest surprise, especially when you consider all the capital Bass has spent on the division."

Richard North, Bass finance director, said most of the negative items were one-off and added that the problems with the pub business vindicated the company's decision to sell 1,750 houses earlier this year.



The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, meeting Japan's Finance Minister, Kiichi Miyazawa. in Tokyo yesterday

Greenspan rules out co-ordinated rate cut

ALAN GREENSPAN, chairman of the US Federal Reserve, disappointed markets yesterday when be failed to signal an interest rate cut in testimony to a Congressional Banking Committee, and said no attempt was being made to co-ordinate interest rate cuts among G7 na-

"I think that I can safely say that at the moment there is no endeavour to co-ordinate interest rate cuts," he said. "We are in fairly extensive conversations among the G10 central bank governors and we are clearly exchanging views on all various different aspects of our economies and our views of the overall international situation."

Markets had been booing for hints of co-ordinated moves to lower world interest rates. The hopes had been raised in recent

BY LEA PATERSON

days following a variety of statements from leading central bankers and finance ministers. The Dow Jones index fell by

16.74 points to 8007.65 in early afternoon trading, retreating from an earlier 57 point gain. In London the FTSE 100 finished the day up 10 at 5,291.7. Investors were nervous ahead of Mr Greenspan's testimony, which was released after the London markets closed.

Sterling closed at DM2.835, over a pfennig up on the day. Speaking in Tokyo early yes-

terday morning. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, warned that he would not put UK economic stability at risk for the sake of intervention in the global financial crisis. His remarks were interpreted as

meaning that UK rates would not come down unless domestic economic conditions were

Both the US Fed chairman and the UK Chancellor said the international community was ready to help economies m need, but only if these economies took appropriate steps towards reform. The Chancellor said the G7 nations would discuss options for intervention over the next few

In London, Mr Greenspan's impending testimony overshadowed the latest UK economic data, which revealed falls in both the rate of earnings growth and unemployment. Economists said the figures were "neutral to positive" for the interest rate outlook.

The minutes of the August

meeting of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), showed the committee voted 7:2 in favour of keeping rates on hold, citing earlier increases in the rate of

earnings growth and falls in unemployment as causes for concerp. Willem Buiter voted for an immediate rise in rates, while DeAnne Julius called for a rate Headline earnings growth fell to 4.7 per cent in June, down from 5 per cent in May and

better than market expecta-tions. There were falls in the rate of earnings growth in man-ufacturing and services sectors. Economists predicted that

the rate could next month fall below the 4.5 per cent level considered by the MPC as being compatible with its inflation target. However, most forecasters, including the Bank itself, expect pay pressures to pick up again next year when the national minimum wage comes into force.

Unemployment fell by 16,400 in August on the claimant count measure, a sharper fall than the market had been expecting. The July figure was revised to show a slightly larger fall than first reported. Some economists called the

labour market data a "puzzle", saying they would expect a fall in the rate of earnings growth to be accompanied by a rise in unemployment Several attributed the mixed picture given by the labour market data to statistical "blips", saying the data would soon start to show rising unemployment. Other analysts said the falling jobless total would give the

MPC cause for concern.

BG hits target to make £1.5bn payout

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

BG. THE gas transportation and exploration group, yesterday held out the prospect of a £1.5bn payout to its 1.2 million shareholders after disclosing that it is beating the financial targets set down by the indus-

try regulator, Ofgas.

The group, which demerged from Centrica, the trading arm of British Gas, in Fehruary last year, also said it expected to raise a further £450m from asset disposals this year, bringing the total to £1,65bn.

The payout would follow a 1.2bn distribution to share holders last year through a special issue of 'B' shares. David Varney, BG's chief executive, said the company was now exploring the best route for returning capital to shareholders and said it would be comfortable with a payout of between £1bn and £1.5bn.

This would give it a debt-toequity ratio of about 50 per cent in its regulated business Transco, which runs the courtry's gas pipeline and storage network. Mr Varney also disclosed that BG was beating the rate of return set down in its latest price control formula by between £80m and £100m a year.

When the gas regulator Clare Spottiswoode, announced the new price controls, British Gas described them as the "biggest smash-and-grab raid ever" and warned they could mean 10,000 job losses and undermine the safety of the gas

distribution system. However, Mr Varney said the company was achieving a rate of return of 8 per cent against the 7 per cent implied in the regulator's formula, with a reduction in the headcount of 2,500.

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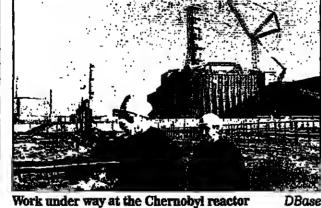
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He was speaking as BG reported second-quarter earnings at the hottom end of analysts' forecasts and lifted the interim dividend by 7.5 per cent to 4.3p. Pre-tax profits fell 24 per cent to £187m due to lower transportation charges, higher interest payments and increased severance costs. Outlook, page p17



AEA wins Chernobyl clean-up work

the Chernobyl reactor in Ukraine, which caught fire in 1986 causing the world's worst nuclear accident, has been won by a consortium including Britain's AEA Technology, writes Michael Harrison.

The contract, worth about \$5m, involves improvements to the steel and concrete shelter covering the damaged number 4 reactor at Chernobyl.

A KEY CONTRACT to clean up to prevent highly radioactive JGC of Japan. The contract is dust and water escaping.

AEA Technology has won nuclear contracts worth about £20m, and a further £11m contract for clean-up work at Cherpobyl is due to be announced.

The company, which was floated off from the Atomic Energy Authority two years ago, has a 25 per cent stake in the Chernobyl consortium. Its partners are SGN of France and behalf of the G7.

one of the first major orders to be placed since the Ukraine government and the G7 countries agreed on a clean-up programme for the stricken

It is being funded through the Chernobyl Shelter Fund. which is administered by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development on

The work also involves drawing up an emergency plan in the event of an accident occurring inside or near to the shelter.

The order is one of a burgeoning number of international nuclear clean-up contracts won by AEA Technology since its £228m privatisation in September 1996.

The shares were sold at 280p and are now worth more than 800p.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

BLUE CHIPS failed to hold their best levels, despite increasingly confident talk that lower interest rates are on the way. Footsie, at one time up 78.9 points, ended just 10 higher at 5,291.7. Trading was hrisk, with share turnover topping the I billion level.

Takeover talk lifted Enterprise Oil 24.5p to 390p but, as if proving beer and oil do not mix, the Bass hrewing group slumped 97p to 725p after rolling out a downbeat trading statement which prompted analysis to cut profit estimates.

Derek Pain, page 21

NEW YORK

US STOCKS rose for a fourth day in early trade on expectations that the Federal Reserve would act to keep the US economy out of recession. The Dow Jones rose 50.64, or 0.6 per cent, to 8074.85 in midday trading, before easing back to 8026 after the Fed chief Alan Greenspan failed to drop hints of possible rate cuts in his

testimony to Congress. Expectations of lower rates have grown since 4 September, when Mr Greenspan said distress in overseas financial markets could hurt the US economy.

● TOKYO

IN JAPAN, stocks were little changed as a 34 per cent slide by the struggling Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan and declines in other banks offset gains by Sony and other exporters. The dollar surged against the yen amid speculation that the G7 would help Latin American markets shore up their currencies. The Nikkei 225 index fell 29.67 points to 14,197.70.

The Nihon Keizai newspaper said it will add Asahi Bank and Kokusai Denshin Denwa to its Nikkel 225 from 24 September, replacing Nihon Cement and Showa Line.

HONG KONG

THE PROSPECT of an imminent interest rate cut by Peking powered a third day of gains for red-chip stocks with the index of state-owned Chinese companies jumping 7.5 per cent to a two-month high. So far this month, China stocks are the bestperforming stocks in Hong Kong as a strengthening yen and hints that Peking may cut rates allay concern of a yuan devaluation.

The Hang Seng index rose 127.21, or 1.64 per cent, to 7,860.68, paced by Hutchison Whampon and HSBC Holdings.

SAO PAULO

BRAZILIAN SHARES raced upwards in midday trade as newfound confidence that a financial crisis was not imminent took hold. Seeds for the new optimism

were planted on Tuesday as rumours circulated of an aid package from the International Monetary Fund. Brazilian officials later said they were in talks with the IMF only about crisis prevention. The Bovespa index started wobbly after surging 18 per cent on Tuesday, but later renewed the upward charge, rising 7.22 per cent to 7,404 points by 1616 BST.

2.72

G7's band aid solution won't work

WHAT DO world leaders mean when they talk about "co-ordinated action" to deal with the crisis in the international economy? Financial markets would like to think it means a synchronised cut in interest rates across the G7 countries: rtainly that is what is required to era equities right now.

Unfortunately, it is already plain as a pikestaff that this is not going to happen, not in the immediate fuure at least. Politicians can presumably still hope to influence the level of interest rates, but they no longer determine them. And the central bankers who do are sticking religiously to their brief, which in most cases is to keep the lid on domestic inflation.

Thus Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, was unable to hold out any more than the hope that interest rates have peaked at this week's TUC conference. Hans Tietmeyer, his German counterpart, was more intransigent still Monetary policy in euroland was just fine. he said, and there would be no cuts. So that appears to be that, for four

As for the remaining three. there's no chance of a cut in Cana-



OUTLOOK

da while the currency remains so weak. And in Japan, rates are already as low as can be without getting into the cloud-cuckoo-land of having to pay the borrower for the privilege of lending to him.

In the end, of course, the only one that really matters is the US. But even here official thinking on policy has yet to shift significantly away from the old priority of controlling inflation to dealing with the new threat of deflation. If Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, has changed his thinking, he was offering few clues to it in his Congressional testimony last night.

things world leaders can do to

counter the present threat to the international economy beyond cutting interest rates or introducing capital controls. Gordon Brown, the British Chancellor, has been full of them during his visit to Japan. Mr Greenspan was similarly on message during his testimony last night. They could, for instance, bolster the IMF with fresh funds. If Republican opposition in the US continues to trustrate this process, bilateral loans to crisis-torn regions might be possible. There is al-ready talk of such action in the event of the crisis snowballing in Brazil. There are also alternative ways of

adding liquidity to markets. Regrettably, set against the battering ram of interest-rate policy, none of these solutions offer more than a band-aid approach to the problem. It is the job of central bankers to stand above often-exaggerated predictions of disaster and make a considered judgement on these matters, but over the last month, the odds on the emerging markets contagion spreading to the US economy do seem to have shortened significantly. Given the seriousness of the position, it would There are, of course, other be unwise of the Fed to test the

As George Soros, the interna- days the gasmen don't like to be re- thought when the Government gets Corzine, co-chairman, has said until tional speculator, neatly put it in his minded of their apocryphal pre- around to announcing his appoint- he's blue in the face that the float isn't testimony earlier this week to the US House Committee on Banking and Financial Services: "Financial markets are neculiar in this respectthey resent any kind of government interference, but they hold a belief that if conditions get rough, the anthorities will step in. For the time being that presumption is proving a long way from the truth.

Gas regulation

HINDSIGHT is, admittedly, a wonderful thing. But with every day that passes it becomes more apparent still that BG got off lightly at the hands of the departing gas regula-tor, Clare Spottiswoode. Remem-ber the fearful walling and gnashing of teeth that followed her initial proposals for controlling the prices Transco charges for piping gas around the country? The higgest smash-and-grab raid in history, fumed the gasmen - seizure of shareholders' funds on an unprecedented scale. There would be 10,000 job losses and the integrity of the entire gas network would be at risk.

That was two years ago. These

dictions. In fact, it has all turned out rather nicely. Far from being raped and pillaged, BG has found enough slack in its balance sheet to return £1.2bn of capital to shareholders and now it is contemplating the return of a further £1.5bn. What's more, it is beating the rate of return set down by the regulator and endorsed by the Monopolies Commission to the time of £100m a year And the job losses? Ex, well they are

actually nearer 2,500 than 10,000. Perhaps it is just as well that the regulated business is doing better than expected, because the unregulated hits of BG, such as exploration and downstream oil and gas, are looking sickly at \$12 a barrel Nor does the deepening crisis in emerging markets augur well for BG's international ambitions

Despite a £90m cut in revenues, rising redundancy charges and higher depreciation, BG has managed to limit the fall in operating profits at Transco to a mere £9m. The departing Ms Spottiswoode might argue that this is what incentive regulation is all about, But it ought to give her successor, Calment as the new Energy Regulator.

Goldman Sachs

CONDITIONS in investment banking could hardly be worse right now, but every cloud, as they say, has a silver lining. For many in the City and on Wall Street it is the evident discomfort of Goldman Sachs over the timing of its stock-market float which, given the crisis in financial markets and the precipitous fall in banking shares, could hardly be more unfortunate. Goldman Sachs makes a king's ransom every week by advising on precisely this sort of thing; that it should slip up so badly on the timing of its own float is an eventuality laced with comic irony.

In theory, the present bear market shouldn't matter too much as only 10 per cent of Goldman Sachs is being floated initially, with the rest locked in for up to five years. That might seem bad enough for the vendors - a stake that a couple of months back would have fetched \$3bn is now worth just half that - but given that the great bulk of the eqlum McCarthy, some food for uity won't be traded and that Jon

he's blue in the face that the float isn't about money, it ought not to scupper the planned listing altogether:

Unfortunately, market chaos is also undermining the stated purpose of the float, which as you can imagine purports to be a higher one

than that of enriching the partners. One of these purposes is to achieve a more efficient and less costly capital structure. Since the cost of servicing banking equity has doubled since the early summer, it is not apparent that this argument still holds true. The other stated purpose was to enable Goldman to use its capital to do deals and take advantage of global consolidation in financial services. Again, turmoil in financial markets is bringing the process of globalisation and con-solidation to a grinding halt. Maybe Goldman's traditional

partnership structure is more suited to the lean years ahead than publicly-quoted status. Mr Corzine's flotation plans were vociferously opposed by a not insignificant minority of partners. If market conditions continue as they are, their voices will he heard once more, especially if third-quarter performance was as

HOW THE WORLD'S TWO BIGGEST COMPANIES STACK UP

MICROSOFT: WORTH \$261bm



Chairman & CEO since Born: 28 October 1955 Dropped out of Harvard University 1975 . Founded Microsoft in Earned \$561,000 in 1996 (Including a \$222,000

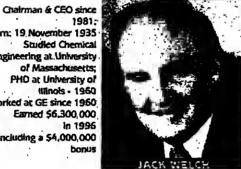
- World's biggest maker of personal computer software -Microsoft competes in more markets than there are digits in the net worth of Bill Gates, who is the richest man on the
- Behind MS-DOS and Windows operating systems, used on the majority of personal computers around the globe. Microsoft Office provides spreadsheets and word processors and other tools for the corporate and home computer users, as well as the internet browser Internet Explorer.
- Profit more than half GE on 1/6th of revenue
- Founded by Bill Gates with high school friend Paul Allen in an Albuquerque hotel room in 1975; Roated in March 1986 at \$21 a stare
- Based Seattle Washington, ...
- 22 323 employees

Listed on Nasdag

7.7.98 record high share price of \$119 %

GENERAL ELECTRIC: WORTH \$257bn

Born: 19 November 1935 Engineering at University Worked at GE since 1960 (Including a \$4,000,000



- Diversified manufacturer, technology and services company, making almost everything from jet engines to light bulbs and locomotives
- GE Capital accounts for nearly 40 per cent of total earnings, making GE the world's largest non-bank finance company
- GE also owns NBC, the number one American to negotork
- 106 years old; founded 1892 in New York when Thomson-Houston merged with Edison General Electric Co
- Based in Fairfield, Connecticut
- Only company to have been in Dow Jones Industrial Average since Dow started
- 30.11.94 overtook AT&T to become biggess company on Wall St.
- . 1.7.98 first company to reach \$3000n market cap
- 17.7.98 record high share price 596 %

Collapse of buying group adds to pressure for Co-op merger

THE PROSPECT of a merger be- BY NIGEL COPE tween the two major parts of the Co-op movement has moved a step closer following the collapse of a key buying

group within the operation. The failure of the Consortium of Independent Co-operatives, led by the Co-operative Retail Society, will leave the individual members to organise their own deals with food sup-

This will lead to a dramatic rise in their supermarket costs. at a time when the members are already struggling to cope with high debts and mounting

The collapse of the buying consortium coincides with the retirement of Harry Moore, the CRS chief executive, who has been opposed to a merger Associate City editor

with the larger Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Mr Moore's successor will be announced on Friday, and insiders within the movement are hoping that the new chief executive will be more sympathetic to the idea of a merger. The two sides last rejected a

union in 1994. It is understood that the CWS, which last year fought off a break-up bid from Andrew Regan, is still willing to discuss a merger, but that the CRS is more reluctant.

Clive Vaughan of Verdict, the retail consultants, said: "Everything the CRS has been doing has been driving a wedge between the two parts of the movement. Perhaps the collapse of this consortium will push them closer together." The CIC's members includ-

ed the CRS - which has now been renamed Co-operative as well as the United Yorkshire. Scot-Mid and Portsea co-ops. The consortium benefited from buying power of more than fibn, but it was poorly organised. It was also dwarfed by the

rival buying group led by the

CWS, which had buying power

of £2.5bn. Analysts say that if the Coop movement cannot agree to a full merger it will have to form a single buying entity if its supermarkets are to have any chance of competing effectively against the major grocers

Asda.

Figures released by the CRS in May showed that its losses nearly doubled to £25.6m, while bank borrowings stood at

The CRS has been further damaged by the sudden departure of David Robey, its head of food retailing. He is leaving to join Shell where he will run the Select convenience stores at Shell's petrol sta-

Yesterday the CWS reported a slight increase in operating profits from £53m to £56m, helped by a record performance from the Co-operative

Like-for-like sales in food retailing were higher by 5 per cent, although costs were also such as Tesco, Sainsbury's and higher due to increased in-

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Microsoft topples GE as king of the market

BY DAVID USBORNE in New York

AT EXACTLY what bour during Monday's market trading Microsoft overtook General Electric as the most valuable company in the United States ghody quite knows, but the astone has attracted wide at The lion of the old econ-

aly - the 21st century is here. As a symbol of the new prinacy of the technology sector as the engine of US prosperity. he vaulting of Microsoft to the umber one spot, at least in vallation terms, is indeed powerul. Let us forget, for a second, hat by every other measure E remains vastly bigger than he house Bill Gates built.

It was only in July that GE. ed since 1981 by Jack Welch. as basking in the glory relected from the performance of s stocks. Then it became the rst corporation in US history) achieve a valuation above 300bn (£180bn). But that was ack when the Wall Street hull till rampant. Everyone has it the main of the market tur-oil of secent weeks; as it hapus, though, GE has suffered

ore than Microsoft. A race is now on almost as impelling for American spectors as the race on the baseill field for the all-time record r bome runs struck in a sineseason between Mark McGre of the St Louis Cardinals to Sammy Sosa of the Chica-Cubs. At Monday's close. Miosoft was valued at \$261.2bn mpared with \$257.4bn for inecticut based GE.

Nobody else is even close. ard, but miles behind, is anter leviathan of American histry, Exxon Corp., with a tration of \$171.9bn at Mon-'s close. Next comes bevges giant Coca-Cola with

News Analysis: Bill Gates's allconquering software giant now has the highest valuation on the Dow



Microsoft has long been the standard-bearer of the hi-tech revolution, but GE might be seen to stand for the past, if only by virtue of its age. More than a century old, it was born in 1892 of the combination of Thomas-Houston Co and Edison General Electric. Moreover it is the only company that has had its shares listed on the Dow Jones Industrial Average since the index's inception.

Its public image, moreover, is still overwhelmingly as an industrial manufacturer. It is known in particular for those hig-ticket items that are especially vulnerable to cyclical downturns - large domestic appliances, from clothes washers to cookers, as well as aircraft engines. No less than 40 per cent of its revenue, bowever, comes these days from GE Capital Corp. its financial services unit.

Notwithstanding the recent toll on its shares, GE is hardly in the doldrums. If the bull returns it could quickly reclaim its \$300hn crown. Confidence in the company derives in part from the extraordinary reputation of Mr Welch, 62. He is expected to tory. While growing sharestay at least until the end of holder value is important,

has been fortunate to be at the forefront of growth in the technology industry, but success can be fleeting in an industry so competitive". If GE spells the industrial

2000. Asked recently which

chief executive in America be

most admired. Microsoft's Bill

Gates did not besitate before

meanwhile, continues to

achieve double-digit growth

and has reigned among the

networks for five years. "GE

has many businesses that have

value and superior manage-ment," said Robert Spremulli,

an analyst with Teachers In-

surance, which holds 35 million.

shares in the company. "In the

long scheme of time GE, with

For now, however, the win-

ner's trophy is Microsoft's.

That it has overtaken GE in the

value stakes is remarkable

from many standpoints. For

one, it is still small by compar-

ison. In the year ended 30 June,

Microsoft had \$14.5bn in rev-

enue and \$4.79bn in earnings.

That compares with revenues

at GE in 1997 of \$90.8bn and

played down the significance of

what, after all, was a paper vic-

With that in mind, Microsoft

earnings of \$8.2bn.

its makeup, will prevail."

GE's NBC television unit.

naming Mr Welch.

age, Microsoft has long been the icon of the information era. Its success in multiplying share value is the stuff of legend. With its dominating presence in providing software systems to personal computers and its success in exploiting the explosion of the Internet, It has seen its stock value multiply almost 5,000 per cent in 10 years.

Microsoft doesn't view market

capitalisation as a particularly

spokeswoman said. "Microsoft

critical measurement," a

The generosity of the company in distributing shares to its employees has delivered no fewer than 4,000 millionaires around its Redmond, Washington, base. These are the socalled Microsoft Millionaires.

And, in spite of well-publicised legal difficulties, Mi-crosoft remains well positioned to sustain its growth. In a recent report, the US Commerce Department noted that the IT industry now accounts for nearly 8 per cent of the US economy. More strikingly, the sector can be credited for nearly a quarter of economic growth in the

Equally telling is the con-tinuing willingness of investors to put their faith in Microsoft in spite of those legal storm clouds. This week, a judge in Washington DC rejected a Microsoft bid to have a potentially grave government anti-trust lawsuit against it thrown on. The first evidence in the government's case that the company indulged in illegal market. practices to protect the dominance of its Windows platform, combined with new Web browser technology, will be heard on

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British firms go unpaid in Russia chaos

IT LOOKS as inevitable as the By PHIL REEVES onset of Russia's freezing winter Soviet-era economic remedies are back in fashion in Moscow. And British companies, once heroic pioneers on the rough soil of its opening markets, are looking on in mute horror

The new Prime Minister, Yevgeny Primakov has yet to complete assembling his team, but the presence of two veterans the Soviet-era central banker Viktor Gerashchenko and Yuri Maslyukov once head of Gospian has been enough to instil international gloom. Talk abounds f protectionism and Sovietthe hard currency controls. ven the latest top government appointment, a pro-marketeer called Alexander Shokhin, admitted yesterday that, without western aid, the money-printing presses will roll; it would now be a miracle

if they didn't. None of the thousands of Russia - including about 300 from Britain - is insulated from the fall-out of Russia's deepening economic crisis, which saw the rouble fall again yesterday. Scores of locally hired staff have been laid off. Others have gone unpaid for weeks, because of the paralysis which has seized the



Gerashchenko: Soviet-era central banker is back

A few have flown home, nobadly scalded by Russia's default of \$40bn of rouble-denominated short-term debt. Expansion plans have been torn up, and advertising budgets cancelled. Attention has switched to the question of whether it is worth soldiering on in what was always an unpredictable emerging market, complicated by corruption and bureaucracy, but which is now in utter chaos.

Leading the victims - apart from bankers - are the foreign companies which import goods into Russia, the confectionery, clothing, medicines, foodstuffs and other consumer products which were hard to find under the Soviet Union, but have now become part of Russian life. Together, these firms are owed many hundreds of millions of dollars (or the rouble equivalent) by Russian distributors who cannot pay their bills because their own money is in Russian bank accounts.

in Moscow

One survey of 50 foreign companies is said to have found that, together, they are owed \$450m, trapped by the banking freeze. The effect is to bring business to a halt.

"We've stopped importing stock," said Paul Carter, of SmithKline Beecham, which imports cosmetic and pharmaceutical products such as Aquafresh toothpaste, and is currently owed \$20m by its Russian clientele. "At the moment there is a vacuum in the market, in which we have the consumer demand but no product. It's incredibly frustrating."

Like many, Mr Carter is try ing to recover his company money while also watching for clues to the new Russian government's economic policy. The hig fear of the multinational importers is that the foreign companies working in rouble will be truly convertible, as we have to pay for our products in hard currency.

Inevitably, the crisis has also spawned its own class of grifters, who are not affected by it directly, but claim to be. Suspicions abound that some Russian distributors, now not paying for their products, have bulging US dollar accounts offshore escape money" against the day that the government finally implodes and retributions begin or, for that matter, the the taxman's knock on the door.

Ultimately, there is little that foreign creditors can do to recover their money, beyond refusing to supply more stock or fering generous rescheduling deals. The legal system is still strewn with loopholes, and the courts are overburdened. Personal relationships, forged over the vodka bottle, now count as never before. But many millions will be written off.

All this amounts to a reversal of fortune in which the foreign importers helped create woes. Hungry to penetrate vast, untouched markets, they were willing to expand aggressively despite the lack of credit sources (banks were far more interested in pocketing the profits of high-interest short-term government paper than lending to Russian entrepreneurs).

They found themselves extending ever-larger credits to their distributors, most of which were, in effect, unsecured because of the byzantine nature of the legal system. Worse, some foreign companies were hured into a complex web, from which it is now impossible to squeeze funds because they do not know with whom they are dealing.

For instance, they signed distribution deals with shell offshore companies, only to have the goods received by one subsidiary, while a second would undertake to make payments. The result, according to experts at Andersen Legal (an affiliate of

IN BRIEF

New measure from accounting watchdog completes crackdown

THE Accounting Standards Board has completed its crackdown on financial engineering excesses with today's publication of a standard outlawing companies from including provisions in their accounts unless they have an obligation to meet such liabilities as pollution or restructuring costs.

Financial Reporting Standard 12 is designed to spell the end of "big bath" accounting where organisations made huge provisions for future reorganisations and then fed them back into income over several years with the aim of smoothing accounts.

Wassall looks for £1bn buys

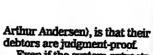
WASSALL, the mini-conglomerate changing into an in street trust, said it could spend up to £1bn on acquisitions. The company, which is fighting a takeover battle for lighting group TLG, said it was looking at "lowtech" businesses, such as engineers, in Europe and Asia. Interim operating profits rose 10 per cent to £14m.

Parc scraps £40m flotation

PARC, a specialist recruitment company, yesterday scrapped its £40m flotation because of difficult market conditions. The company, a management buyout from the Irish airline Aer Lingus, said it pulled the float because the value achievable in the current market conditions would not reflect the true quality of the business".

Better cost savings at Somerfield

SHARES IN Somerfield, the supermarket group, received a boost yesterday when the company said cost savings from its merger with Kwik Save will be £20m higher than hought. Somerfield told shareholders at its annual ng yesterday that it anticipated savings of more m. The company said like-for-like sales in the first .6 weeks at its main Somerfield stores were "stable" at ninus 2.1 per cent. The shares rose 22p to 467.5p.



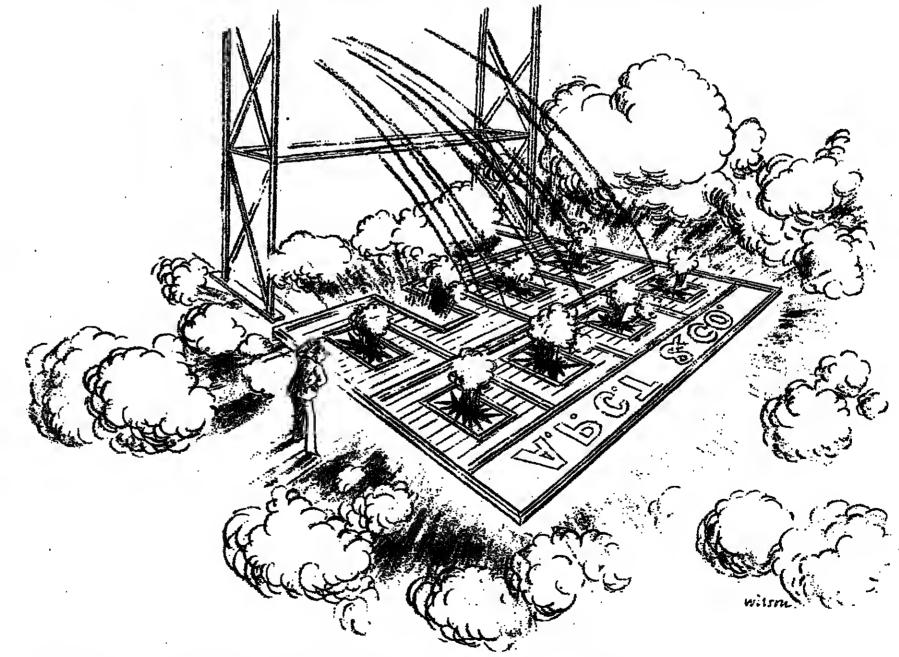
Even if the system extracts itself from its current gridlock, the effects will be felt for a long time. Trust - between foreign importer and local distributor, banker and client - has been dealt a bruising blow.

A year ago, there was euphoria among Moscow's for-eign companies, who were rubbing their hands gleefully at the prospect of a growing economy in a country of 147 million, replete with vast potential markets. All that has changed. Unless Mr Primakov and his friends overhaul the Russian banking and legal system, confidence is un-



A demonstrator carrying a picture of Lenin shouts anti-Yeltsin slogans at a demonstration in Moscow. Soviet-era economic remedies are coming back into fashion and foreign companies working in Russia bave to decide whether to soldier on amid corruption and chaos

Our competitors promise to save money on BT's business calls. Frankly, there isn't much behind them.



It seems every new telecoms company that opens its doors claims it can save your business more money than BT.

In fact, the savings are often not what they seem. Some of our competitors don't always take into account our discounts and often compare their best rates against BT's basic rates.

BT, on the other hand, can offer significant discounts on all your business calls (not just selected calls) 24 hours a day.

Certainly, our competitors don't take into account the £8 million a day we've spent over the last 13 years ensuring

the quality of our service; the 53,000 people working on our network; or that we monitor the reliability of our network 24 hours a day.

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THE INDEPENDENT
Thursday 17 September 1998

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Bass takes the shine off the market

IS ANOTHER oil deal looming following the £910m merger between British Borneo and Hardy Oil & Gas? With the crude price in the doldrums oil companies are, on past valuations, looking incredibly cheap. Any group with predatory instincts must feel the time is ripe to strike.

Step forward Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi, the state-owned Italian group. Reports from Milan say it has "talked for ages" about mak-ing a takeover bid for Enterprise Oil, up 24.5p at 390p (after 405p). Like the rest of the industry

Enterprise, which has significant Italian interests, has fallen sharply from its rarefied peak. At one time the shares were riding near 730p as its wide spread of interests made it a magnet for any industry follower.

Enterprise and ENI already erijoy a close working relationship and there is little doubt Enterprise, capitalised at approaching £1.9bn, would make an ideal swal-low for ENI, which is in the process of being privatised and may feel it needs an impressive deal

The Italian giant denied earlier this month that it was interested in Enterprise but, intriguingly, added:

MARKET REPORT



PAIN

"Major oil companies are consid-ering ways in which to concentrate their business activities with those of other companies" but it had not "identified specific opportunities to this end".

Enterprise shares were also encouraged by Lehman Brothers support and indications that its Llano field in Mexico had potential reserves of more than 1bn barrels. Most other oil shares remained

in depression but Lasmo, once an Enterprise target, rose 6p to 177p. The rest of the market failed to

lower interest rates are on the way. Although at one time 78.9 points up, the Footsie looked like ending in negative territory until a late burst

produced a 10-point gain to 5,291.7.
Supporting shares were for once more resolute, with the mid cap index up 35.3 to 4,758.6, although the small cap had to be content with a 1.9-point advance to 2.091.8.

Brewer Bass was the major blue-chip casualty, tumbling 97p to 725p as profit forecasts were slashed following a downbeat trading statement. Scottish & Newcastle fell 49.5p to 725p in sympathy. But Whithread managed to shrug off the brewers' droop on the back of Credit Lyonnais support. The investment house cut its profit ex-pectations but moved its stance from hold to buy. Analyst Nick Williamson has lowered this year's expectations by £10m to £374m and

next by £30m or £40m to £388m. Talk of another supermarket price war, usually a phoney exer-cise, ruffled food retailers. J Sainsbury, said to be leading the campaign, fell 4.5p to 562.5p and

hold on to early inspiration, despite Tesco lost 2p to 171 p. Asda was hit increasingly confident talk that 4.25p to 180.75p but Somerfield, on the back of an upbeat trading state-

ment, put on 22p to 467.5p. BG's progress came to a halt on an uninspiring trading statement,

MORE OFEX gloom. The Sandwich Bank & Crust Co was suspended at 12.5p after talking of a reorganisation and "adverse" trading results. It is selling its mobile diner division to focus on its sandwich business and is in talks for new capital to be pumped in.

The group suffered from an unsuccessful float when some underwriters backed out, leaving it short of working capital. The shares were floated at 30p

with the shares off 19.5p to 375.5p. BT was dialled 19p higher to 344p after it confirmed it was in the money-more than £4bn. The cash inflow has come from BT's stake in MCL taken over by WorldCom. The thinking is that BT will hand much

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence

of the cash back to shareholders in the form of a special dividend. Lourho Africa, part of the once

SONOJEMAMIJAS

WHITBREAD

sprawling empire dominated by the late Tiny Rowland, added 4p to 59.5p as Blakeney Management, a US investment group, and its African Lakes associate disclosed a 8 per cent stake and made threatening noises. They are seeking, what they call "constructive" discussions with LA and want to put three directors on the board.

Lourbo, the other half of the split conglomerate, rose 12p to 275p, in part reflecting the recent im-provement in the gold price. Clare-

SHARES OF Powderject, a maker of needleless syringes, rose 9.5p to 414.5p after its reported encouraging results in trials which could lead to a vaccine for skin cancer. The company said studies on mice had showed that the vaccine, delivered through its helium-pow-

ered syringes, destroyed cancerous cells in mice. Powderject shares have been as low as 180p since they arrived last year, earlier this year they reached 512p.

mont Garments provided a reminder that not all takeover bids are profitable for investors: terms of the agreed Courtaulds Textiles offer left the shares off 4.5p to 18p. Pub companies were tormented by Bass's statement and JD Wetherspoon's neutral comments. Sing & Lettuce fell 15p to 192.5p and newcomer Pubs 'n' Bars 5p to 50p. Wetherspoon hardened 5.5p to 166p. Imperial Chemical Industries, following the Merrill Lynch down-

grading, managed to steady, up 3p to 523p. But British Steel slipped 2p to 100.5p after SG Securities slashed profit forecasts from £420m to £95m and from £690m to £295m.

Avis Europe, the car hire group, reversed 2.5p to 228p with HSBC talking of selling the shares down to 190p. Business Post, with a profits warning, produced the day's biggest fall, off 47 per cent at 365p. Navan Resources, the Irish ex-

plorer, jumped 8p to 40.5p on talk of a major overseas group taking a stake. Emerald Energy softened 0.25p to 8.25p after its comments about "live oil shows" in Colombia. On the insurance pitch St James' Place put on 12.5p to 296p. There is talk that Prudential Corporation may pounce: the Pru

SEAQ VOLUME: 1,010 million SEAQ TRADES: 63,076 GILTS INDEX: n/a

firmed a few coppers to 828p.

Kingfisher shows the The son of way for retail sector

IN AN increasingly difficult consumer environment, Kingfisher has proved to be one of the retail sector's more resilient performers. Its shares - which jumped 20p to 540p on good halfyear figures yesterday - are oly 7 per cent off their March peak as investors have turned to the relative safety of the

FTSE 100 retailers. Kingfisher's interim figures certainly showed scant evidence of an economic slowdown. Pre-exceptional interim profits were 22 per cent higher at £182.6m, driven by a terrific performance from B&Q, where profits rose by 19 per cent. Woolworths is experimenting with an out-of-town format that gives more space to toys, children's clothing and es and it will print a million of its Woolworths Direct catalogue for Christmas.

Superdrug is moving more to health and beauty and is ting a store that offers massages and a hair salon. Meanwhile, Comet is plodding along after last year's windfall-fuelled

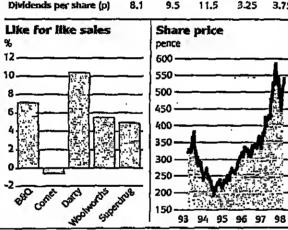
With the home front looking secure and the on-off Asda deal probably dead, Kingfisher was making much of its pan-European ambitions yesterday. Darty, the French electricals business, is doing well and the stake in the BUT electricals and furniture operations is now up to over 60 per cent Kingfisher's European division also has interests in Germany, Holland Belgium and Poland, and it would be no surprise if more territories

were soon invaded. Sir Geoff Mulcahy, King-fisher's chief executive, would not be drawn on his plans for Cestorama, the French DIY bit ness with which Kingfisher was linked last month. But with talk of a wider European stage, he did seem to be preparing the market for a deal oo the

On Merrill Lynch's full-year forecast of £580m the shares trade on a prospective multiple of nearly 18. Not cheap but decent value for a well-managed business in a difficult sector.

INVESTMENT **EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN**





Britannic is streets ahead

ON THE face of it, Britaunic Assurance is a dull old door-todoor life insurer from the Midlands, serving those people advertisers like to call the C2s, Ds and Es. Britannic's salespeople still visit their customers to collect cash premiums. It is small-ticket business (perhaps £10 or £20 a month). And the margins are modest. How could this be a tempting investment?

In fact, there are some very good reasons why it is exactly that. First there is the recent takeover of rival London & Manchester by Friends Provident for the very full price of £744m. If other insurers follow the same logic, Britannic will be snapped up.

True, many rivals are puzzled by the big price paid by Friends - even given the un-fortunate fact that it was set

before the equity markets turnbled. But the deal still gave door-to-door insurers an un-

familiar air of desirability. Britannic's rivals are struggling. Liverpool Victoria has taken three-quarters of its sales force off the road after discovering they were poorly trained; United Assurance is struggling to rebuild its sales after a huge shake-out.

But Britannic is streets ahead. New business was up 15.6 per cent in the year to June. Its staff have increased their productivity: the man from Britannic now comes equipped with a laptop.

With the benefit of a 7.5 per cent return from £1bn of newly acquired orphan assets, shareholders enjoyed earnings per share up 86 per cent to 84.6p. Operating profit rose 11.2 per cent to £78.2m. Britannic also has the financial strength to weather any more equity mar-

Britannic shares jumped 48p

to 1,281p yesterday, valuing the company at 1.3 times Merrill Lynch's estimate of its book value. Given that London & Manchester was bought for 1.6 times book that's still cheap.

AMV eases fears of slump

YOU HAVE to feel for Abbott Mead Vickers. The advertising and marketing group has long avoided rash international ventures in favour of building up its business in the UK. Until a few months ago, this meant it was seen as a safe option in a risky industry. But then investors started worrying about the shares promptly dropped 40

per cent Half year figures, released yesterday, went some way towards easing fears of an imminent slump. Adjusted for the sale of the Leagas Delaney agency, turnover was up 12 per cent, while operating profits jumped 18 per cent. The chairman. Peter Mead, insists there

is no sign of a slowdown so far. What's more, AMV believes it is better prepared this time. It argues that in tough economic times companies switch from building their brands to boosting sales with one-off campaigns. As a result, AMV has invested heavily in direct marketing and public relations businesses, which will protect revenues if traditional advertising spending tails off.

Of course, none of this will do much good if spending really begins to fall. Although it has built some flexibility into its wage bill, AMV's profits are still highly geared to any rise or fall

Analysts have left full-year profit forecasts unchanged at about £19.4m, putting AMV shares - which rose 28.5p to 292.5p yesterday - on a forward multiple of 18. That's a discount to AMV's larger rivals. But until the economic outlook clears the shares are no more

Tarzan is also rising

RUPERT RESELTINE has not only inherited the looks of his father Michael – tail and blond - but also his talent for publishing. Heseltine Junior is making good progress in the Haymarket magazine empire founded by his dad in the 1960s.

Rupert, 31, has progressed from senior sales executive on Revolution, Haymarket's "new media" mag, to PR Week as advertising manager, and then ad director. Based in Haymarket's offices in Hammersmith, west London, Rupert has now gone Annabel and Alexandra.

Apparently the media-magnate-in-the-making, who is generally popular with colleagues. is in the habit of telling scruffy members of his sales staff to "put their ties on". Perhaps someone should write a management book about this interesting technique.

SUNDAY BUSINESS, the newspaper relaunched by the Barclay brothers last spring, is to move east from the ITN building in Gray's Inn Road to London Docklands - much to the horror of its 40-odd journalists.

The upheaval is due in January, and there is rebellion in the air. Startled staff were told on Friday afternoon that as the paper's new landlords want to ramp its rent, it's time to move. The Barclay twins are negotiating over two possible sites - Westferry Circus at Canary Wharf, a reporter's notebook throw from The Independent's own offices, or South Quay, recently rebuilt after the IRA bomb.

This means there is a real possibility that Sunday Business editor Jeff Randall and some other former Daily Telegraph journalists may find themselves back in the old Telegraph building in South Quay they moved to in 1987. The Barciay brothers are also pumping £10m into the opPEOPLE AND BUSINESS

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

eration by buying The Guardian's printing press at South Quay. The press will print Sunday Business and London editions of The Scotsman.

WATCH OUT BT. Lord Young of to help launch PR Week in the Graffham is back. The former emerge from the shadow of his man of Cable & Wireless yesindustry after a three-year gap. Lord Young, you may recall, was shown the door at C&W after falling out with his chief

executive, James Ross. He has popped up as a non-Digital Networks (IDN), set up in December to handle highspeed data communications for business customers.

Young Associates, the peer's private investment company, has a controlling stake in IDN. David Dey, the former chief executive of Energis, is also on the Equities at BT Alex. Brown, says



Budding media magnate Rupert Heseltine is helping US, which should help him cabinet minister and ex-chair- to launch Haymarket's 'PR Week' in the US

Data is going up and up and our main thrust is to partner everybody," Lord Young tells me. "People will deal with us because hopefully we're honest."

executive chairman of Inter BT ALEX.BROWN has struck uity sales trader from HSBC Se-

again with its fourth big sales trader hiring from Warburg Dillon Read in three mouths. It has poached Joe Mason, who it most highly respected sales traders in the City". Edmond Warner, head of pan-European

hunting ground" recently. The bank has also hired David Simmonds, former head of equity trading at HBJC, the private client high net worth side of HSBC: Mark Barnes, an eqcurities; and Elizabeth Strawbridge, who dealt with pri-

vate clients at Albert E Sharp. "We sensed that a lot of other says is "without doubt one of the houses were traumatised by the turmoil in the markets recently, and the time was right to pick off the dissatisfied and dis-

darrine .	Turnover (£)	Pre-cas (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	X-dir
Holl Mapi Vickers (I)	216.6m (207.5m)	7.32m (6.12m)	6.21p (5.03p)	2 4p (2.0p)	23.10.98	28 09.9
Hizacy Unichers (1)	2.52b (832.9m)	50.1m (26.9m)	11.3p (10.1p)	3.65p (3.3p)	37.12.98	28.09.9
di & Lacoy (i)	68-9m (75.3m)	5.Dim (5.45m)	8 94p (10.30p)	3.1p (2.0p)	13.11 98	28.09.9
arbican Healthcars (1)	3.0m (1.6m)	-0.010m (-0.075m)	-0.05p (-0.39p)	□ (→)	-	-
harles Dejacs (I)	162.8m (128 1m)	10.34m (10.62m)	3.89p (4.03p)	1.15p (1.15p)	01.11 98	05.10.90
rismaic Assurance (P)	- ()	209.5mg (1.016b)	B4.6p (\$65.0p)	12.Dp (10.Dp)	16.10.98	28.09.9
Country (1)	41.9m (37.5m)	4.25m (4.6m)	9.7p (10.5p)	3.85p (3.7p)	01.12.96	19 10 8
latement Gardens (1)	74.1m (86.4m)	-0.420m (-1.129m)	-0 7p (-1.5p)	200 ()	-	-
Lates Cards (1)	86.7m (72.0m)	-0.595m (-1 Bm)	-0.72p (-2.07p)	1.0 (→)	22 10 98	28.09 94
unies Property (I)	19.6m (15.1m)	1 682m (1.205m)	7.4p (4.9p)	1.70p (1.57p)	22,10.98	28.09.90
escora (I)	9.3m (18.5m)	2.58m (2.87m)	8.4p (8.3p)	nii (→)	-	_
descr (f)	19.6m (19.7 m)	2.61m (2.56m)	6.3p (6.1p)	1.8p (1 0p)	13.11.96	tba
eroum Hay (I)	4.9m (4.9m)	0.525m (0.248m)	3.4p (1.7p)	D.8g (all)	04.11.98	28.09.9
aglisher (1)	3.0b (2.7b)	226.8m (157.9m)	11.7p (8.5p)	3.75p (3.25p)	20 11,98	toa
crard Madhama (t)"	173.8m (185.3m)	9.7m (6.7m)	2.49p (3.49p)	2 Op (1.80)	23.10 98	28.09.9
pex (i)	59.5m (57.1m)	2.457m (1.538m)	2.98p (1.60p)	0.50 (0.40)	16.10.98	28.09.96
eristing (i)	18.0m (15.2m)	1.04m (1.12m)	3.3p (3.2p)	(Q.8p) (Q.8p)	30.10.98	28,09,90
TS filroup (7)	54.1m (40.6m)	1.865m (0.755m)	3.61p (2.12p)	1.350 (1.30)	29 10.98	28.09 9
M (F)	77 Brz (89 Srz)	~15.1m (3.5m)	-42 4p (2.4p)	1 Sp (2.20)	15.12.98	16.11.98
notivital (C)	83.7m (86.6m)	1.52m (1.34m)	1.6p (2.0p)	1.9p (1.9p)	24.11.98	12.10.96
alifre (I)	68.0m (87.4m)	-2.01m (-1.37m)	-10.3p (-6.8p)	mi ()		
ring Rea (I)	112.1m (116.5m)	6.6m (-1.4m)	1.40 (-0.30)	on (⊷)	_	_
estame led Grace (F)	12.4m (6.3m)	-0 054m (-1.71m)	-0.14p (-8.94p)	=1 (−)	-	_
yer & Francis Group (I)	17.1m (13.0m)	3.87m (3.56m)	4.38p (4.21p)	1.0p (-)	28.10.98	28.09.98
If Thorse (F)	26.7m (23.7m)	4.04m (3.12m)	21 79 (15.30)	5,250 (4,50)	D4 11.98	28.09.95
bell & Britise (ii)	539.6m (417.1m)	11.7m (11.6m)	16.4p (17.1p)	5.9p (5.5p)	11 86.98	Sto
ibury Douglas (1)	266.6m (240.8m)	7.957m (9.158m)	6.2p (7.2p)	3.20 (3.00)	06.11.96	28.09.96
y Brace (I)	58.9m (70.2m)	1.215m (0.757m)	1.50p (0.93p)	().35p (nit)	30.10.95	28 09.98
unity (F)	16.0m (10.9m)	-7.97m; (-0.0m)	-2 Sp (2-9p)	10 (-)		_
hastell (I)	136.6m (388.7m)	17 Om (231.5m)	6.5p (106.7p)	23p (23s)	98 11.95	28 09.96
F) - Firmi (D - Interior (C) -						

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-	-	OTH	IER S	POT RAT	ES		
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Argentina	1.676	6	1.0000	Oman Pakistan	0.645 90.20		0.3850 53.800
Brāzil China	1.978 13.88	0	8.2785	Philliplacs	73.38 6.000	35 36	43.770 3.5790
Crech	51.63 5.737		30,795 3,4222	Poland Qater	6.103	37	3.6405 8670.7
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with .	143.5					_	_

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Australia Belgium Canada	3.47 5.19	0.00 0.01 0.03	4.78 3.54 5.32	0.01 0.05	5.21	0.05	5.09 - 3.80 (5.20 (0.03 0.01	5.32 4.32 5.29	
ECU France Germany Iraly	0.00 3.47		3.81 3.42 3.56 4.08	0,02	3.60 3.53	0.04 0.05 0.08 0.03		0.04 0.06	4.23 4.18 4.02 4.49	0.01
lapan Mlands Spain	0.17 3.34 - 4.05	0.02 0.02 0.01	0.24 3.52 3.65	0.01 0.00 0.01	0.27 3.59 3.67	0.01 0.05 0.06	0.58 - 3.82 (3.91 (0.D1 0.05	0.98 4.16 4,43	-0.01 0.02 0.01
Sweden Stand UK US				0.03 0.01 -0.01 0.00	1.67 5,94	0.03 0.04 0.03 0.03	2.08 (5.43 (0.01	4.74 2.88 5.14 4.90	0.04
)3 	4,05 -	U.U1					ATES		4.30	0.02
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Domestic I Eurosperiin Eligible Ba	g Deps nk Bills			/.38 7.50 /.31 7.44	7.34	7.41 7.21	7,38 7,41 7,34 7,41 7,20 7,10	7.22 6.97	7.25 6.5 7.28 6.5 6.87	977.03
Sterling Cl Eurodollar ECU Depor	Œs −				7.37 5.47 4.06	- !	7,31 7,23 5,41 4,00 4,13	5.34	7.08 6.5 3.97	966.86
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		LIF	FE FINAN	CIAL F	UTURE	5	
						Est floor	One
Contract			Settlement	High	LOW	Acinibe	Interes
Long Gilt		Sep-98	113,92	113.85	113.55	58.00	4959.00
5 Yr Gitt		Sep-98	106.40			_	561.00
German Bund	đ	Dec-98	113.60	113,59	113.35	24.00	5318.00
Italian Bond		Dec-98	110.85	111.04	110,75	18956.00	83285.00
Japan Govt B		Dec-99	13B.19	138.20	138.03	1826.00	0.00
3 Mich Sperlin		Nov-98	92.57	92.57	92.53	12819,00	146979.00
		Dec-98	92.92	92,94		55250,00	183287.00
3 Mith Eurom		Oct-98	95,48	96.49	96,47	1250.00	15704.00
		Sep-98	96.45				0.00
3 Mith Eurolin		Dec-98	96,19	96.21	96.17	18000.00	161852.00
		Mar-99	96.46	96.50	96.45	5938.00	269451.00
3 Mith Europe	en n	Sep-98	99.40				0.00
3 Mth Eurosy		Dec-98	98.24	98.24	98.18	13966.00	73338.00
		Dec-98	98.24	98.25	98.19	9810,00	38809.00
3 Mith Euro		Sep-98	95.85	_		-	0.00
		Sep-98	95.88		_		10088.00
FTSE 100		Sep-98	5292.00	5370.00	5275.00	50255.00	104066.00
Settlement Pr Se		91.70		let	Nov		
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	INE	USTRI	AL META	ILS		
LME (5/tonne)	Cash	Chg	3 month	CINE	LMEsode	Chg
Akuminjum HG	1326.5 1327.5	-17,00	1357 1	358 -19	493300	1200
Aluminium Alloy		-12.00		173 -9	77100	-2
Copper A		-3.00		979 -3		250
Lead Mickel		-1.50		528 -2 110 -60		-27 -16
Tin		-65.00		390 -15	8060	29
Zinc	1016 1017			042 3	364625	387
	PF	RECIOL	S METAL	.S		
pm flx/S per o	z pr	n fov/£ p	er oz	Coins	(\$)	
	lay's Year's chg chg Ye	ar's	Day's chg			Year
Platinum 365,00		atinum 21	7.90 -2.15 -48	25 Krug'ra	nds 283.35	
Palladium 290.00	2.00 98.50 Pa	iladium 17	3.15 1. 6 0 52	.95 Sovs	72.34	
Silver 4,95	0.02 0.24 5	ver	2,96 0.03 0	.00 Nobles	386.05	
Gold 288,25	-2.40-32.75			Maple 1	eaf 285.35	42.
	AGR	(CULT)	IRAL AT S.	30PM		
	7.0.					
Cocca	Coffee	Barley		tatões	Lge Po	tatoe
LIFFE Enonne	LUTTE \$/tonne	LIFFE	É/tonne Lii	FE £/ronne	ATA S	/25k k
Sep981003.00	Sep981666.00	Sep99		y98 80. 00	Apr39	532.0
Dec\$81030.00	Nov981914.0	0 Nov98		r99 123.00	May99	532,5
M2r991060.00	Jan 99 1560.00			199 154,00		S43.5
Vol: 0	Vol: 0		o Vol			
White Sugar	Freight	Myesi	Co.	TS*	Şoya B	#2m\$*
LOFFE S/toppe	LIFTE STONES OR	LJFFE	S/tonne CB	OT Cents/bs	ht CENOTS	/5k bst
Oct98 211.30	Sep98 890.00	Sep98	71.50 Se	98 200.00	Sep98	29,31
Dec98 221,00	Oct38 965.00		72.55 De	98 211.50	Nov98	27.5
Mar99 226.20	Nov98 990.00	Jan99	74.95 De	.98 211.50	Jan99	32.00
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	OTH	ER SP	OTS AT 1	орм		
	011					_
Occ. Use Catrie		61.80	Dec White	Make (SAF	3 S/1 00 mr	677 N
Oct Live Cattle Feb Pork Belles	(CME) S/40k Ib		Dec White of Sep Rubber) \$/100 mc	
Feb Pork Bellies	(CME) S/40k Ib (CME) S/40k Ib	47.65		(TO)	Q Y/ 5k kg	88,5
Feb Pork Belles Nov Orange Juice	(CME) S/40k Ib (CME) S/40k Ib (CTN) S/15k Ib	47.65	Sep Rubber	(TCM	9 Y/ 5k kg 9 S/50k lb	88.5 75.2
	(CME) S/40k Ib (CME) S/40k Ib	47.65 110.15	Sep Rubber Dec Cotton	(TCM (CTA Palm (KLC	Q Y/ 5k kg	88.5 75.2

Tyson's primitive appeal primes fascination

A PRETTY SAFE bet is that more ly spurious championship con- Mavrovich is unbeaten but as the airtime and column inches will he given this weekend to Mike Tyson's plea for the restoration of his boxing licence than world title defences by two of the sport's leading champions, Evander Holy-

field and Oscar de la Hoya. In drawing almost as many reporters to Las Vegas as would be expected there for a major fight promotion, Tyson's appearance before the Nevada State Athletic Commission 15 months after it suspended him indefinitely for sinking teeth into one of Holyfield's ears tells boxing more than it wants to

Never in a more parlous state than it is presently, lacking genuine

tests, professional boxing has no figure with the appeal of an utterly discredited former heavyweight champion who was twice outfought by Holyfield.

Much admiration was held out for Holyfield in those contests, but general indifference to a defence of the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles against Vaughn Bean at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on Saturday confirms that be is not automatically a crowd puller.

The same can be said about Lennox Lewis, who is putting up his World Boxing Council heavyweight championship against Zeljko Mavrovich, of Croatia, in Connecticut on 26 September.

combined total of victories recorded by his 30 victims is no higher than 27 per cent indifference to this one is even more understandable.

In the same ring - both camps can be held to account for failing to agree on a unification bout -Holyfield and Lewis would post healthy pay-per-view numbers but their presence individually does not guarantee an audience. That Lewis is defending on a native American reservation, not one of the main boxing centres, speaks

The remark of a veteran American ringside reporter that neither man can draw flies over there without going at each other or walking than opinion. naked along Fifth Avenue is too



cynical even for my taste, but his view that Tyson still dwarfs them in public estimation is more fact

JONES

Discouragingly for anyone who World Boxing Council welter-

was drawn to the rough old game by impressions of inherent nobility, fascination with Tyson springs more from his violent assaults on decent behaviour than anything he has achieved in the ring.

Since there is no doubt at all that the return of Tyson's licence would restore him as boxing's most marketable figure, the relevant question is whether the sport has a future in the coming millennium.

The signs are not good. Hostage to television and therefore explosions of ludicrous hyperbole, boxing attempts to serve a generation that places it in the thespian realm of professional wrestling.

De la Hoya's defence of the

weight title against Julio Cesar Chavez in Las Vegas tomorrow calls the sport further into question.

One of the great modern champions with more than 100 victories and only two defeats, Chavez, now la Hoya, who stopped him in four rounds two years ago.

Two weeks ago a hloated Roberto Duran had to be rescued from a battering by William Joppy in a forlorn challenge for the World **Boxing Association middleweight** championship. Arguably the greatest lightweight in history, Duran is 47 years old. The once terrific Ghanaian super-featherweight Azumha Nelson is still fighting in his 40th year, losing more often than he wins.

History shows that plenty of champions have gone on past their time - Sugar Ray Robinson is the saddest example - but never before in such numbers.

If boxing's ills relate directly to 36, is given no chance against De the proliferation of self-serving organisations and television's preoccupation with mainly bogus titles, then public taste comes

In Tyson's case it is what a friend with many hours logged at ringside refers to as the "King Kong syndrome". It is not Tyson the fighter people see but Tyson the primitive.

The word is that Nevada will look favourably on Tyson's plea. That is a compromise, not a

Cricket: Birkenshaw's bonding has produced a Leicestershire team on the brink of another Championship

Wells and Lewis tap into spirit of unity

COINCIDENCES CAN be curious BY JON CULLEY and spooky things at times. For example, on both the occasions that Leicestershire have won cricket's County Championship, in 1975 and 1996, the only match they lost was against Surrey at The Oval. However, it cannot happen again.

The race for this year's Britannic Assurance title has come down to the last round of fixtures, which contenders: Lancashire, who play Leicestershire and Surrey, who face each other... at The Oval.

Leicestershire, who lead by nine points, are the favourites, but the contest is so close that the only way they can be sure of taking the major prize is to win. Defeat would hand the title to Surrey. A draw could allow Lancashire, who have already won the NatWest Trophy and the AXA League, to complete a glorious treble.

There is one other element that the Leicestershire teams of '75 and '96 - and today - have in common and that is the presence of Jack Birkenshaw, an off-spinning all-rounder in the side Ray Illingworth dragged from the cricketing wilderness in the mid-1970s, and who this season has demonstrated again, in his capacity as manager, the ability to mould a cricket team into something greater than the sum of its parts.

Leicestershire are one of those counties who, for want of a label, are often deemed "unfashionable". That is not to say they have no good players but none who readily spring to mind in the thought processes of journalists or Test selectors.

Unlike Lancashire or Surrey, whose dressing-rooms are dominated by international players, no Leicestershire man has appeared in a Test match all summer, although Alan Mullally, their improving left-arm pace bowler, is

seas player, the redoubtable West Indian, Phil Simmons, has had an unremarkable year.

What they do have, bowever, is a wide spread of players who are not great but who are better than good. No batsman, for example, has 1,000 Championship runs; but Ben Smith has 961, two others have 800start today. There are still three plus and four others around 500 each. And no bowler has taken 70 Hampshire at Old Trafford, plus wickets; but after Mullally, on 57, six

others average close to 30 each. This compares unfavourably with 1996, when four batsmen topped 1,000 runs and five bowlers more than 40 wickets. Yet if they come out on top over the next four days, this season's side will have won more matches - 11 against 10.

The secret, if there is one, apart from having a side undisturbed by Test calls, is that Birkenshaw and his first lieutenant, captain James Whitaker, have fostered and maintained a one-for-all team culture to which few others come close.

Vince Wells, the 33-year-old allrounder who spent three frustrating years trying to make progress with Kent, appreciates this factor more than most.

"One of the things that is special about this team is that we get on very well with each other as friends as well as team-mates," he said. "Players often spend time together off the field as well as on it. Often within a county side cliques develop and some players feel left out, hnt that does not exist here.

"As a result, I think the players here are that little bit more keen to do well for the team, to make a contribution, because they enjoy playing together and want to succeed together."
Wells, in some ways, is Birken-

shaw's ideal player, an all-round team man as capable of winning a match with the ball as the bat. His going to Australia. Even their over- record going into the final round is



Jack Birkenshaw (right), the Leicestershire manager, is his team's pivotal figure at The Oval yesterday as they prepare for today's decisive match Peter Joy

802 Championship runs at 36.45 and at Kent before his arrival at Grace Road in 1992 that his transfer was hardly a headline-making event. Yet Birkenshaw had identified in him just the qualities he believed were sential in the side he wanted to

"He always had good style," Birkenshaw said. "He hit the ball cleanly, timed it well; and he had a good bowling action.

34 wickets from his medium-pace have the right attitude. He had been engage the maverick talents of bowling at a miserly 14.79. Oppor- a footballer so he was likely to be Chris Lewis, the England alltunities had been so limited for him a good competitor and I felt he wanted to play if he could only find an opportunity.

"He had not had that at Kent. If people don't believe in you and you chance to outshine his former Surare always looking over your shoulder it is difficult to be at your best. contributions to bringing Leices-A player's character in many ways is as important as his ability and I title in three seasons, as batsman, sensed he had the character I was looking for"

"But I could tell also he would surprising to see Birkenshaw re- Northamptonshire at Grace Road been hindered frequently by problems of temperament.

Yet Lewis, who will relish the rev colleagues, has made important tershire to the brink of a second bowler and stand-in captain. Few who were present will forget his In view of such comments, it was astonishing performance against

in July when Leicestershire chased an improbable 204 runs in 20 overs rounder whose undoubted class has to win - and pulled it off. That triumph was thanks largely to Wells making a half-century off 25 balls and Lewis hitting an unbeaten 71 in a mere 33

Such inspired performances owe much, Wells says, to the influence of Whitaker, who has not played since April because of a knee injury yet has fulfilled his captain's role as much as he has heen

"James has atill played a hig part," he said. "He is very good on the mental side of the game. He talks to people a lot and has the knack of motivating players, to get

that little hit more out of them. They will, collectively, need to play above themselves between now and Sunday evening, against a Surrey side driven by Alec Stewart's desire to complete a memorable summer by helping his county win the title for the first time since his father led them to glory

Simmons' men in pole position for pennant.

FOUR DAYS, three teams and a BY DEREK PRINGLE Championship. If the phrase sounds like the title of a blockbusting film the glamour will be strictly localised as cricket's equivalent of the Premiership is concluded in front of less than full houses at The Oval and Old

Trafford. Three teams - Leicestershire, Surrey and Lancashire - head the running for the Championship pennant, still the most highly regarded domestic competition. But if the kudos remains, the prize money -£100,000 to be shared among the winning team - is piffling, amounting as it does to about a month's salary for a footballer plying his trade with one of Britain's leading clubs.

Of the trio fighting for the spoils, only Leicestershire, who lead Surrey and Lancashire by nine and 11 points respectively, can conceivably win by is for rain on Friday.

Cricket Correspondent

drawing - their match is against second-placed Surrey.

To prevail that way would rely on full bonus points against Hampshire. As this is the easier of the two matches, on paper if not meteorologically, Phil Simmons' men would probably be advised to win first and leave the contingencies to those below them.

Bonus points apart, the other imponderable is the early autumn weather Domestic cricket desperately needs exciting grand finales like this and it would be a pity if the whole thing were to be rendered disappointingly predictable by persistent downpour. So far the forecast

top three playing away, will, nevertheless, be favourites to secure the trophy they won two years ago. With five victories in a row, their momenturn is as impressive as their pace Lancashire winning with fewer than bowling which, providing an extra fluous Sahara Cup in Toronto is a spinner is not required, knows it has one more important assignment to further blights the merits of

> Alan Mullally, Chris Lewis and players. James Ormond versus Mark Butcher Alec Stewart and possibly Graham Thorpe is about as good a contest between bat and ball as it gets in England outside a Test. Forget cricket's antediluvian reputation as the gentleman's game, the next few days under the gasometer promises to be a begrudging and illtempered contest.

Leicestershire, the only side in the father, Mickey, was captain, will be in the middle of renewed accusations possible now that wins and losses without their leading bowler, the of match-fixing has put his inter-Pakistan off-spinner Saglain Mushtaq. With The Oval one of the few to clear his name. places to help spinners this summer; Saglain's departure to the supercallous slight on his team-mates and counties hiring expensive overseas

> As Surrey's chief match-winner with 63 wickets, Saqlain will be badly missed. Instead of having a world-class spinner to control the game with, Adam Hollicake will be forced to turn exclusively to the legspinner Ian Salisbury, a plan England also followed this summer for no reward.

Lancashire have no such prob-Surrey, who last won the Chamlems with their overseas player, pionship in 1971 when Alec Stewart's Wasim Akram, who finding himself

national career on hold in an effort Wasim may not be at Old Trafford

next year, but he seems determined to give the Red Rose supporters something to remember him by and having captained them to two trophies this season, a third would surely result in near deification. Now that Rupert Murdoch appears to have caused heresy among the followers of Manchester's red religion, idols need only to have spice rather

than a Spice Girl to be worshiped. The pressure of expectation, long overdue in the case of both Surrey and Lancashire, is not to be trifled with For instance, Lancashire have not won the Championship outright since 1934, though they did share it with Surrey in 1950, a result not

are taken into account should the points be level.

Michael Atherton, missing for the last two matches with a bad back. is expected to be fit to renew his battles with Hampshire's West Indian fast bowler, Nixon McLean, Lancashire managed to come second in Atherton's first year at the chib in 1987 and it remains a burning ambition of his, despite absenteeism, to win the Championship.

John Crawley, next year's captain. will also be fired up, and barring disaster and some prolific scoring from Steve James or Carl Hooper, will finish with the season's highest aggregate of first-class runs. Whether he has a Championship medal to go with it really depends on Surrey and Leicestershire fighting each other to a standstill

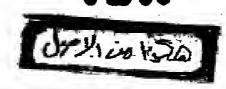
CHAMPIONSHIP CONTENDERS

TOP OF THE TABLE P W L D Pts16 10 0 6 268 Surrey16 10 4 2 259 Lancs......16 10 1 5 257

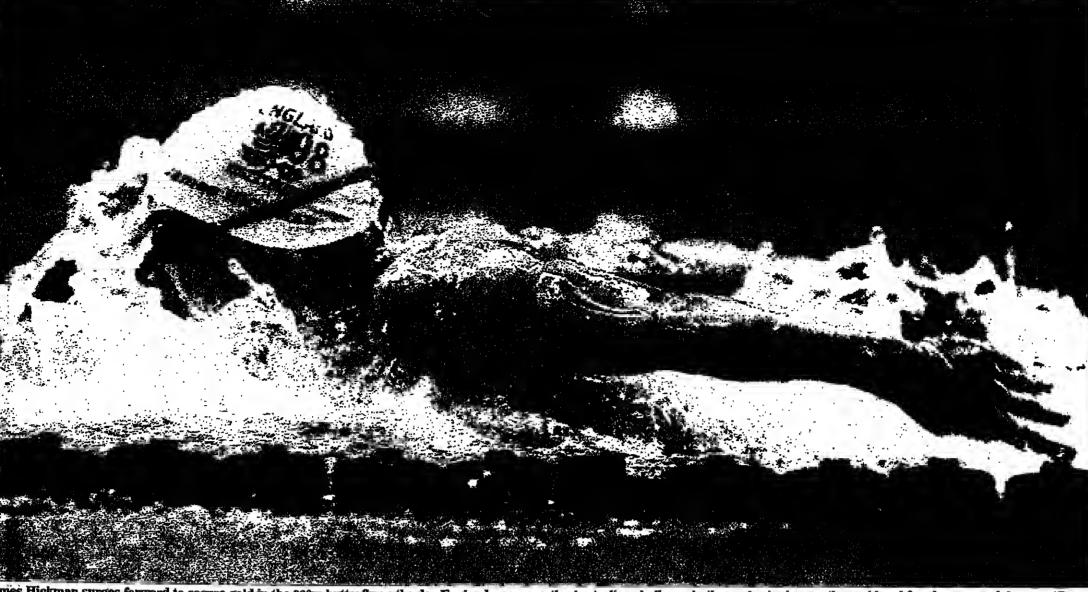
Remaining flatures (starting today): The Oval: Surrey v Leicestershire Old Trafford: Lancashire v Hampshire

POINTS AVAILABLE

Sixteen for a victory (three for a draw) plus a maximum of eight bonus points in the first 120 overs of the first innings (four for batting, four for bowling). Bonus points are awarded for reaching 200 (one), 250 (two), 300 (three) and 350 (four) and for taking 3-4 wickets (one), 5-6 (two), 7-8 (three) and 9-10



there to bearingship



James Hickman surges forward to secure gold in the 200m butterfly on the day England overcame the Australian challenge in the pool, winning another gold and four bronze medals

Hickman and Foster in full flow

IT WAS the day England struck BY JAMES PARRACK back as their swimming hopes hymed to glory at last for James kman and Mark Foster Just as Australia's dominance of the pool appeared to be unrivalled, a sell-out crowd were able to rise to the English anthem for the first time since Saturday. Another four bronzes brought England's medal tally to 17, already four more than they

won in Victoria four years ago. Hickman denied William "The Thorpedo" Kirby his fifth gold with an emphatic win in the 200 metre butterfly. Leading from the front, Hickman was, man's victory began a medal

in Kuala Lumpur

unchallenged on his way to a Commonwealth record time of 1:57.11, winning by more than two-and-a-half seconds from the Australian.

"I hit them early and I hit them hard," said a breathless Hickman, "It was a tough last 50 to complete hut that was the plan. I'll go quicker with better pacing over the first 100."

Shrugging off the disappointment of a disqualification for a false start in the 100m, Hick-

rush. Foster closed on his Commonwealth record to take England's second gold in the 50m sprint. Breathing only twice, Foster used his 6ft 6in frame to out-reach South Africa's Brendan Dedekind to successfully defend his title in 22,58sec.

"After carrying the flag at the opening ceremony I thought if I can do this, no one will stop me in the pool'," he said. "I had a good start but at about 35m I could see Dedekind under my arm but I knew if I could touch him out I would win."

Foster articulated England's

hegemony this week. "We have been short of success since Sue Rolph's gold on the first day," he said. "Today our best swimmers are doing our job and it's up to the rest of the team to finish off the meet for us."

Although the gold rush ended there, the medals continued to come. Rolph added two bronze medals to the gold and two silvers she has already won: first, in the 200m individual medley and then anchoring the 4 x 100m, medley team. Hoping for three golds, the most Rolph can now win is two,

"I felt good to 150m but I'm a sprinter, I still need to work on my endurance to win over 200m," she said.

Sarah Collings was similarly introspective following a relatively disappointing swim. Seeded first into the final of the 800m freestyle the 20-year-old from Bath University was ahead of the field at 50 metres. But just four lengths later, she had dropped to fourth. With a gutsy fight back over the final 200m, Collings secured the bronze in 8:45.46.

best time. I can't be disappointed with a bronze medal at my first Commonwealth Games," sbe said, but clearly she was. "I believed I could go under 8:40. The heats were so easy and yet I only dropped one

next time ' Ah, next time. Next time there is no burden of expectation; no inexperience; and always the hope of the perfect

Steve Parry won hronze behind Hickman's gold in the "I was inspired by the 200m hutterfly and is another

time. Outwardly happy with the medal, he was inwardly at a loss to explain a time that was more than a second behind his best, Missing silver by 0.06sec added to his frustration. On an indifferent day for

second for the final. So maybe the otherwise all-conquering Australians, Susan O'Neill provided one highlight. In winning ber fifth as a member of the victorious 4 x 100m medley relay team, she equalled the biggest games. Today O'Neill is

gold medal haul at a single expected to win one more gold in the 200m butterfly and set response to the Australian but was philosophical in defeat. anthems tought and I swam a who will have to wait for next. Games history,

Inspiration of blooming Nauru Nicol justifies

THE ATHLETIC delegation WEIGHTLIFTING from Kiribati does not appear in the accommodation listing of the Games village. That was because no one in Subom 98, the Malaysian organising committee, was entirely sure whether there was such a place or, if there was, whether anyone was until the three-man team turned up on the doorstep was the matter clarified and a suitable dormitory set aside.

Yesterday was Kiribati's big day their first in the Commonwealth Games. The honour of initiation fell to Temwaree Toaare, an 18-yearold with spiky hair and a winning smile who competed in the 62kg category of the weightlifting after a mere the art. Theare has only just left high school and, apart from the Micronesian Games, has barely competed outside his own island. "He was mesmerised training with big teams like the English and the Welsh," Ernest Stephen, the national coach. says. "But this is the Commonwealth Games, only the Olympics is higger."

For some years now, the Islands have been casting around

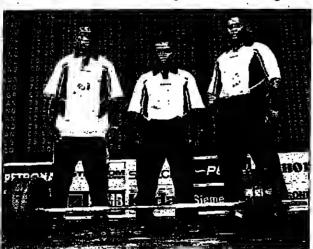
ATHLETICS

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

for a sport which would give them the same status in the region as Nauru, an hour's plane ride to the west Nauru's 15 minutes of fame came with the coming from it to compete. Not weightlifting gold medal won by Marcus Stephen eight years ago in Auckland. The fact that Stephen had been trained in Melbourne was incidental. The

ing programme - the term is used loosely - has now attracted about 30 lifters under the supervision of Ernest Stephen, Marcus's cousin.

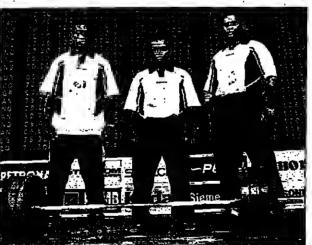
ple of the islands are natural-



Bureka (right) and Karamaia

weightlifting doesn't take up

The beauty is that the peoly built to lift weights," Stephen says. "It's no use having a bas-



Temwaree Toaare is flanked by his Kiribati team-mates

hlue flag with the yellow stripe ketball team if you have no ing we can get the training and was raised to the top of the mast guys who are six feet seven or the facilities on a more secure and everyone went scuttling to promoting rugby if you've got no consult their atlases. Kiribati is hoping to follow suit. The trainare naturally built for power and tion.

> much room, so it's ideal for us. Recruitment is simple, if haphazard. "I can be walking along the street and I see a big guy who looks right for lifting and say to him: Hey, you should come and lift some weights.' Usually, he runs away."

> One of the problems is that Kiribatis are a shy people. Another is that there aren't many in Kiribati was bought secondhand from Australia and is housed in a old shed in the grounds of a disused hospital on South Tarawa, the biggest of the 33 mostly uninhabited islands or atolls. The shed acts as the national training centre. "At least there's no need for a key," Stephen says. "There is oo class in the window, so you can

just climb straight in." Funding is equally insecure. The current government has provided some backing for the programme, but elections this week could mean a shift in power and priorities when the team returns. "We're just hop-

man (Eng) 9,187; 5 N Lucit: (Mar) 9,050; 8 L Mason (Eng) 7,025; Place marcise: 1 Rese-er 9,675; 2 A Stater (Aus) 9,587; 2 McLaugh In 9,487; 7 Hadinsan 7,500; 5 Murgod; 7,562.

HOCKEY

Though the sense of occasion prevented Toaare from lifting his personal best yesterday, he was not disgraced in the same company as Yurik Sarkisian, the former world champion from Australia, and Marcus Stephen. Stephen, the idol of the

South Pacific, further enhanced his image by sweeping golds in snatch, clean and jerk and overweights to lift. The one full set all. Because of Stephen, Nauru now has a full Olympic class weight-training development programme, attended by Atantaake Bureka, the heavyweight in the Kiribati team, who decided to take up the sport after seeing a picture of Stephen in a textbook.

While David Morgan of Wales will today aim for a record fifth successive Games gold, Eken Karamaia, the third of the Kiribati team, will harbour the more modest ambition of survival. "We have to start somewhere," his coach says. "Don't forget, this team has created history by just being here."

COMMONWEALTH GAMES RESULTS

SQUASH

aven: Stagles final: P Nicol (Sco) by J Power (Can) 3-9 9-2 9-1 2-9 9-2.

WOMEN: Singles final: M Martin (Aus) bt 5 Fitz-Gerald (Aus) 9-0 9-6 9-5.

SWIMMING MEN Som freestyle final

favouritism

PETER NICOL, the hot favourite, landed Scotland's first gold medal of the games yesterday while the gymnasts Annika Reeder and Lisa Mason. and the shooting pair Michael Gault and Nick Baxter, collected three more for England.

Nicol finally disposed of the Canadian Jonathan Power, who had beaten the Scot in their last six meetings. This time, the world No 1 battled his way to victory to win 3-9, 9-2, 9-1, 2-9,

"This is as good as winning the British Open," he beamed. "It was firstly for me, because I haven't beaten Jonathan for so long. But it was also for Scotland. It's great to get the ball rolling and I'm sure there will be more medals to follow."

There were bronze medals for England's losing semifinalists Sue Wright and Cassie Jackman in the squash

women's singles. event to add to her silver from pairs air pistol final. Chris Hecthe women's team event and tor and Kenneth Parr followed immediately announced that with a bronze in the men's pairs gold medal as a soft title." Ar she has decided to carry on free rifle three positions event. You listening, Maurice Greene

TENPIN BOWLING

MREN (Selectors): Stugles Master Basic 1 K Ang (Malay) 6.046 plrs; 2 W Rowe (Can) 5.046, 8 W Rennos (Can) 5.850; 5 R Hood (Eng) 5.788; 7 W Grestal (Eng) 5.581 McMattel (Selectors): Silegian altester Basic 1 C Honeychurch (Aus) 6.406 pint; 2 M Nable (Aus) 6.028; 5 L Kin Nach (Malay) 5.920; 5 G Burden (Eng) 5.793; 19 P Buck (Eng) 5.362; 11 C Pirle (Sco) 5.354; 15 L Rhoney (Sco) 4.810.

WEIGHTLIFTING

WETG MTLIFTING
Stilly Snatch: 1 M Yagd (Ass.) 107.5kg (flagof wirst with lower bodyseeight); 2 A K Pandian (Ind) 107.5; 3 M Guriali (Matay) 105.
Cleans and plark: 10 Wilson (Ind) 140.0kg.
Pandian 137.5; 3 Gurişli 135.0, Combinetel
1 Pandian 245,0kg; 2 Wilson 245.5; 3 Gurial 740.0, 62kg Snatcher 1 M Seephen (Naunu) 125.0kg; 2 Y Sarkistan (Aus) 125.0; 3 G
Ganasekar (Ind) 117.5; 7 I Power (NI) 95.0.
Cleans and Jerke 1 Stephen 167.5; 2 Sarkistan 157.5; 3 M Arun (Ind) 195.0; 3 Power
117.5, Combinetel 1 Stephen 292.5; 2 Sarkistan 257.5; 3 M Arun 277.5; 7 Power 212.5.

117.5. Combined: 1 Stephen 292.5; 2 Sark-isian 282.5; 3 Ann 272.5; 7 Power 212.5.

ROUND-UP

until the Olympic Games in Sydney in two years' time. "Annika has decided to continue, because she feels that she can still compete at the very top," John McLoughlin, the team manager, said. "Tonight's score was world class."

Reeder shocked the favourites Australia, who confidently expected a 1-2 in the floor discipline, to retain the medal she won four years ago. Mason struck gold in the vault, with Reeder taking the bronze,

her third medal of the games. England's Andrew Atherton claimed another gymnastics medal when he added a silver in the rings discipline to the same colour he won in the men's individual all-round event. Atherton's team-mate John Smethurst won a hronze in the floor exercise.

Gault and Baxter won their Reeder won gold in the floor second gold for England in the

Shaw's unlikely silver return

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

LORRAINE SHAW got tw powerful hands on England first athletics medal of th Commonwealth Games on day when Denise Lewis close in on a third major heptathk

Just six months ago, Sha was making a tentative retur to hammer throwing aft having four metal pins and steel plate put into her bafollowing an operation to r move a troublesome disc.

On the opening day of ti athletics programme, she s cured a silver medal with a fift round effort of 62.66m Australia's Deborah Sosimen

won the gold with 66.56. Her reward, in the vast Bu Jalil stadium, was a first maj championship medal.

A faintly bewildered Sh: confessed that she had aim: ruined her chances by n throwing on her first two: tempts. One more mista would have left her emp handed, hut she respood with a throw of 61.81.

Lewis finished the first d of the heptathlon with an ! point lead over her neare challenger, Australia's Ja Jamieson. With two of h strongest events to come tod - the long jump and javelin, s plans to settle the competitibefore the concluding 800m

She ran 13.77sec for t 100m hurdles, finished equ first in the high jump wi 1.82m - 1cm below her person best - won the shot with 15.09 and ran the 200m in 24.47se

Thus she is poised to reta the title which marked h emergence to a top-class care which has since brought h Olympic bronze, World silv and - less than a month ago European gold.

One more step for Lewis, b one giant leap for Canda Blades, an 18-year-old schogirl from Belize making a deb in international competitio Blades competed yesterd. with an ankle injury sustain. by training on her home cou try's one grass track. She fi ished the day at the other e of the standings, 1,798 poin adrift of Lewis.

She had never competed an heptathlon before. She ha never taken part in a shot-p or a high hurdles race. "I didn first hurdles in training (Monday and I fell and scrape my knee," she said, "So I a afraid of them. But Denise gar me some good advice."

Today, Blades faces her fir 800m - but there was r thought in her mind of failing turn up. "I won't be a winner I don't come back," she sai "Even if I don't get a medal can still be a winner."

Elsewhere on a night whe Kenya's Simon Maina took th first track gold with 28mi 10.02sec for the 10.000m. Iwa Thomas, Mark Richardson Soloman Wariso and Jam-Baulch proceeded to today 400m semi-final.

Darren Campbell, Marlo Devonish, Dwain Chamber and Wales's Christian Malcoh all reached today's semi-fina: of a 100m which - with the a: ditional presence of Ato Boldca Frankie Fredericks an Obadeleh Thompson promises to be a highlight of these Games.

"This event gives the whol Commonwealth Games legit macy," Boldon said. "No one hut no one, could dismiss thi

Sharpe's hat-trick blunts Pakistan

BEN SHARPE lived up to his name as he scored a brilliant opportunist hat-trick to keep England's men on course for a medal yesterday. A tempestuous match saw Pakistan at one point reduced to eight players as they lost their cool in the steamy Bukit Jalil stadium after having three men sent off in a dramatic second-half.

Two minutes from time the Pakistan goalkeeper, Ahmed Alam, was also dismissed after a furious protest over a penalty corner in which he ripped off his helmet and booted it 30yards, rugby-style, towards the main stand. His stick followed a similar flight path and, with a substitute keeper in position, Sharpe then popped up to score his third goal just seconds from the end. In the semi-final playoff they now face either Cana-

da or Malaysia.

BY BILL COLWILL AND JEAN COLWILL

Tina Cullen, the Hightown striker who missed the World Cup after suffering a fractured jaw in a practice game against Australia, scored four times yesterday as England's women won their final pool game 6-0 against Wales to reach the semi-finals on Saturday.

Although currently leading the pool with 13 points. England might finish in second place should South Africa win their match against New Zealand today. Then they would meet Australia, who will be top of the other pool

If England finish top, they would face the winner of the match today between India and Scotland.



BADMINTON PER STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF T

WORKEN (Selected): Singles first round:
K Morgan (Wal) br M Falecoete (Samoa) 110 11-0: E Cane (Jersey) br J Plunkett (M) 113 11-0: E Sneedon (Soo) br 5 Passuret (Jersey)
11-0 11-1: R Patanery (Eng) br J Cacipic (Irin)
11-5 11-2: T Hallan Teng) br S Cossie (Trin)
11-11-1: Mann (Jersey) br J Cacipic (Irin)
11-0 11-1: R Robertson (NZ) br K Housel (Mai)
11-2 11-0: N Groves Burke (Plas) br C Henderson (M) 11-7 11-6: L P Pet (Maisry) br 5
Le Molgne (Guerristey) 11-9 11-2; A Gibsson
(Sco) br S Hicks (Aus) 11-6: I1-3: N Choudary
(Ind) br G Martin (Sco) 11-4 11-1
WORMER'S DOUBLES: Fless round: E Middienies: S Wart (Sco) br L Mans, K Bol Joe (Fil)
11-1 15-1: G Osborne, K Howell (Mai) br S
Passuret. L Burns (Jersey) 15-6 15-3. BOWLS

B O W L S

B O W L S

REM (Selected): Singles: Section A: 7 Allcock (Eng) bt 1 lis (PNG) 25-5; J Henry (M)

bt C Turagateci (FR) 25-8; D Marquand (Bersey) bt T Boten (Sanca) 25-17; Nutre (Cock

is) bi N Modice (Guerney) 25-18 Section B:

S M S Aidi (Melay) bt W Wood (Sco) 75-22; Price (Ms) bt C Richardson (Bot) 75-10.

MOMEN (Selected): Singles: Section B:

Johnston (Ni) bt K A Horman (Jersey) 25-12;

J Forcest (Sco) bt A Carrington (Zim) 25-22.

Section B: 5 B A Rahm (Mslay) bt J Waeen

(Wai) 25-13; J Baker (Eng) bt L Letoa (Samos)

25-5

BOXING CHARTES-PINALS: ASSES G Jones (Eng) by J Agbello (Gh) 17-7. 60kg: R Nami (Gh) by C McAldase (Ni) 27-3. AMcLess (Eng) by B Ma-ropuchesan (Malay) 15-14. 3 Tkg: K Evans (Mal) by B McCarriage (N) sy 1-8. Over-97kg: A Harrison (Eng) by P Palamoe (NZ) 8-5.

CRICKET SERNI-FINAL: Sri Lunka 130 (AA overs; A Gu-nawardene 53; N Bole 4-16); South Africa 131 for 9 (47 overs). South Africa were by one wicker.

GYMNASTICS

Krautsov (Aus.) 9.325pts; 2 C Brezzasu (Real B.950; 2= 15 methurss (Engl., D Philips (NZ) 8,737; 8 A Auherton (Engl. 7.800. Ponsusel horse: 1 Krautsov 9,487pts; 2 R Read (Can) 9.462; 3 B Dowrick (Aus.) 9.137; 4 L Mc-Dermott (Engl. 9.112; 6 Atherion 8.625; Riages: 1 P Marnine (Aus.) 9.357pts; 2 Ather-ton 9.325; 5 A Myhdi (SA) 9.112; 6 P Mar-ris (Wal) 8.575; 5 L McDermott (Engl. 7.875, Wanitz: 1 5 Huscheon (SA) 9.337pts; 2 C Brezzenu (SA) 9.281; 3 B Hudson (Hud) 9.285; 5 C Heap (Engl. 8.924, Parallel barrs: 1 A Kravtsov (Aus.) 8.887; 4 R Berewer (2ng.) 9.12; 5 B Hudson (Aus.) 8.887; 4 R Berewer (2ng.) 8.837; 5 Atherton 8.462, Movitous barr 1 A Jelticov (Can) 9.425pts; 2 K Burley (Can) 9.000; 3 McDermott 8.950; 8 C Heap (Engl. 7.925;

MISN: Pool At South Africa 6 Wales 1; India 8 Trinidad and Tobago 0. Pool B: England 5 Polistan 2. MOMENT: Pool A: Australia 4 India 0. Pool B: New Zealand 2 Canada 1; England 6 Wales 0: South Africa 12 Namible 0. POOL As Jamaica 83 Malaysia 76; England 62 Canada 32; Australia 71 Barbados 36. Pool 85: Cook Istands 82 Srl Lanka 50; New Zealand 94 Wales 21. 7.925.
McAutosh (Aust) 9.162; 5 A Reeder (Eng) 9.231; 2 T McIntosh (Aust) 9.162; 5 A Reeder (Eng) 9.124; 4 S Lawrence (Ma) 9.110; 7 H Mardock (M) 9.787. Unersets barns: 1. Skinner (Aus) 9.612; 2 V Lcclert (Can) 9.550; 3 Z McLaughin (Aust) 9.512; 2 K Hadzman (Eng) 9.750; 5 Lawrence 9.075; 7 M Wilcox (Eng) 9.267. Beans: 1 McMosh) 9.550; 2 McLaughin 9.375; 3 L Levelle (Can) 9.350; 4 K HaCk-SHOOTING

MERI: Air pissol: 1 M Gardt, N Bayter (Eng) 1.145pes; 2 J Rena, 5 Kunsar (Ind) 1,143; 2 J Rochon, J-P Huor (Car) 1,138: 8 1 Herris, 5 Craft (Wal) 1,122; 11 M Pennington, 0 Lenis GAMES SCHEDULE AND TV COVERAGE

TODAY

Swimming Finals: Men's 700m Ind medley, 1500m freestyle, Ax100m freestyle,
Women's 200m butterfly, 50m freestyle,
200m backstroke, Axthletics Men's 20km
walk final, decarbion, 400m furdies,
800m, 400m, 100m final, 3,000m steeplechase final, discus final, Women's reptathlon, 100m final, 400m semi-finals,
5,000m final, Badminson, Bosting Quarter-finals, Crickes Semi-final: Australia v
New Zesland, Cycling Men's individual porsuit, 20km scratch race final, Hockey (incmen's Australia v Wales, women's Sociland v India, Bowis (inc men's fours firial, Netbas (inc England v Malaysta,
Malawi v Wales), Sabooting, Squash
Mbaed doubles. Weight-Hirding Finals:
69kg, 77kg.

TODAY

TOMORROW Athletics (inc men's triple jump final, 400m final). Bourls, Cycling Pursuit finals. Badminton. Bonding Semi-finals. Weightiffling. Netball. Diving. TELEVISION

7.0-9.0am, BBC2 9.0-11.0am, 11.0am-1.0pm, BBC2 1.0-n, BBC1 1.30-3.0pm, BBC2 5.0-n, 6.25-8.0pm. BBC1 1,50-5,0am, BBC1 7,0-9,0am, BBC2 9,0-11,0am, BBC1 11,0am-1.0pm, BBC2 1,0-1.40pm, BBC1 1,40-2,30pm, BBC2 2,30-4,25pm, 6,25-8,0pm.

50m Presstyle Black

1 M Poster (Bag) 22.58eec

2 B Dedeklad (SA) 22.70

5 81 William (Aus) 22.86

7 8 Morgan (Sco) 25.26.

8 Banak 5 N Shacek (Eng) 23.84; 3 G Meadows (Eng) 23.86.
100m backstroke Bland

1 M Versfeld (Can) 55.52

2 J Watson (Aus) 55.92

3 C Researd (Can) 55.99

4 M Haris (Eng) 55.84 NWey (Eng) 56.09;

7 A Ruckwood (Eng) 55.84 (Sco)

58.53: 3 O Harrop (AM) 1:02.23.
200m bestzerfly Bland

1 J Hickmans (Eng) 1:57.11

2 8 Rivby (Aus) 1:59.63

8 R Ashcroft (Eng) 2:02.37

8 Bassis 4 M Watchins (Wa) 2:03.46: 8 P Latimer (Sco) 7:04.09.

100 MINISTER (Sco) 11:59.63

1 Second 11:59.63

1 Second 11:59.63

1 R Party (Eng) 1:00.8881

1 R Bassis 4 M Watchins (Wa) 2:03.46: 8 P Latimer (Sco) 7:04.09.

5 5 Route (Cong) 2:15-28 5 5 Route (Eng) 2:15-39 8 Route 1 5 Nestoix (Eng) 2:22 57; 3 C Nighter (Mel) 2:23,37; 5 E Crockal-Nizon (IOM) 2:29.07.

MEDALS TABLE

Repertory ready to stage repeat

THE MOST interesting punting BY GREG WOOD medium so far this week has been Ladbrokes' share price, as speculation continues as to whether the company will be allowed to keep the Coral chain which it acquired a few months ago. Not so today, however, as Newbury stages three Listed events, all of them worth \$50,000, and though it may be optimistic to describe one of them as an Arc Trial, this is still about as competitive as this level of racing ever gets.

Then again, since this is just the second running of the Doubleprint Arc Trial, it is probably too early to judge, and it is only fair to the admirable Posidonas to point out that Swain, the finest middle-distance horse in Europe, was among his victims when he won the inaugural race 12 months ago. Of more immediate concern is the implication that Posidonas is a good thing today, since there is nothing of similar calibre among his rivals. As ever, the reality is more complicated. Swain was giving away half a stone last better opportunities. The Dubai

2.40 Andreyev

year, whereas this time it is Posidonas who must give 5lb or more to most of the field.

With the likes of the lightlyraced Italian Oaks winner Zomaradah in the field, this will not be easy, although Luca Cumani's filly did not distinguish herself in the Ribblesdale Stakes at Royal Ascot last time

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Life Of Riley (Newbury 4.10) **NB:** Cathedral (Newbury 3.40)

out and is best watched today. One runner who is in good form, though, is Scorned (3.10). who was second in a German Group Three last time out and before that just a length behind Nedawi, the subsequent St

Leger winner, in an unusually strong Listed race at Haydock. This is a difficult one, though, and the supporting events offer

Airport World Trophy is a fas- and from that draw we can do cinating contest, and offers a our usual jump-and-run. He's a chance of a Listed-race win for one of Britain's smallest yards. Malcolm Saunders will travel up from Somerset with Repertory, and the horse that can catch him will deserve to win.

Repertory, you may recall, was within a fraction of a second of breaking the world equine speed record at Epsom a few weeks ago, when he bolted from the stalls at astonishing speed and was never in any danger of being caught. Had he not been drawn towards the outside, from where be was forced to tack across to the rail, the record might have been broken, which would have earned his connections a five-figure bonus.

If the draw was unkind then. though, it could hardly have been more friendly today. Repertory will set out from stall 11, with only Proud Native, who is usually slowly away, between him and the stands' rail.

"Obviously this is his biggest In the stayers' handicap, Life test," Saunders said yesterday, Of Riley (4.10) could take a "but he's got bags of early speed great deal of passing.

big, strong horse too, so he'll be

able to stay on. It's hard to as-

sess John Gosden's filly [Ze-

landa, the winner of her last

three races], but I always think

that three-year-olds have to be

really good to beat older hors-

es. He's in good form, which is

the thing with sprinters, and it

certainly makes a change from

outside, in two, which is hard-

ly ideal. Coral will lay you 10-1

about REPERTORY (nap 3.40)

this morning, and that is a

There is a decent bet at

good odds in the Dubai Duty

Free Cup too, in the shape of

Danish Rhapsody (next best

2.40) at 8-1 (Ladbrokes). Lady

Herries' runner was unim-

pressive in Germany last time,

but had previously finished an

outstanding second to Muh-

tathir this course and distance.

Zelanda is also drawn on the

Nottingham and Bath.

price worth having.

Should improve but this is a much stronger contest.

Unfold Riches: 33-1 when well beaten behind Mes Ameripuri in Newmarkst filles' meiden

VERDICT: Barry Hits runs an emazing six in this and the well-drawn PESHTIGO is this best hope with son Michael aboard. Candlenggs is reported to have ability, white Border Prince is a good prospect for the lattre. Of those to have run, Regal Philosopher has the best form, but Senure looks the big Improver in the field. The Gosden string is in fine torm.

2.40 DUBAI DUTY FREE CUP (LISTED) (A) SSO,000 added 7 64yds (Round) Penal- BBC2



Revivel, Supercal, Elektrimons, 12-1 others 1997: Pussian Revivel 4 8 0 L Delton 9-1 (J Gooden) drawn (6) 11 nm

tahir here (7f) test month. Succeedul five times last season, but has never won over

Riversian Revivet: Lest year's winner, but has not run since July and has a tough task against Muches, who gave him 5to and a 21 beating at Newmarket in June Witdens Wheles a belated seasonal reappearance and has obviously been difficult to train as he ran only 4 times as a 3-y-0. Trip looks a shade too short

VERDICT: Not surprisingly the sponsors send out a strong team to retain their own prize money (which they did test year) with Le-Feah, Elehamma and KAHAL. This will be Kahal's first outing over this distance this year and he may be at his best late season. He won twice over 71 last autumn, including the Challenge States at market when he beat Muchea (3rd and 315 worse off) by 21, and also won in aptember of his 2-y-o carear. Authoryer has held his form in op company this on and put up brave affort when 4th in fast-run 51 Group 1 at Haydock last time.

3.10 DOUBLEPRINT ARC TRIAL (LISTED RACE) BBC2 (CLASS A) £50,000 1m 3f Pen Value £30,639

ESCITING: 2-1 Talpen, 3-1 Positiones, 11-2 Zomeradah, 7-1 Poter Prince, Scorned, 6-1 Dark Shell. 16-1 Declaive Action. 1997: Poscinoss 5 9 2 T Clunn 8-1 (P Cole) drawn (5) 5 ran



won and producing a carry-over of £148,670 to Newbury today

know how to run a bad race and will appreciate this return to seven furiones after his fourth to Tamarisk in a Group One sprint at Havdock.

Frankie Dettori teams up with Kahal who won twice over this distance last season and will also be more at home over this trip. Kahal caught the eye when stay-

2.40: ANDREYEV does not HYPERION'S

ing on to take sixth place over an extended six furlongs at

TV TIPS

Deauville last time. 3.10: TAIPAN is taken to return to form and make the most of the 5lb he receives from Posidonas.

3.40: BISHOPS COURT may have caught Easycall in another stride or two at Doncaster last week and should again account for Dashing Blue (3rd), Bollin Joanne (4th), Proud Native (5th) and Rambling Bear (6th). My Best Valentine, who is bound for next mooth's Abbave.

will get the strong pace be seems to need over this trip nowadays Speedy Zelanda, who has put up some fast times, will proba make the running. John Gosden's filly will go close if she actual on this slightly easier going.

117

ALC: N

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2.20 George Charles C

STREET TOWNS TO STREET TO STREET

2.50 GROSVENIUS CA

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All the state of the state of

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SEEL A.

TOTAL STREET

E 15

4.10: LIFE OF RILEY is an inform sound stayer and gets a confident vote. Murghem is the most interesting of the remain-

NEWBURY

2.10 Senure (nb) 3.40 Bishops Court 4.40 Honeybird

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in back straight). Penetrometer reading 3:27.

STALLS: Straight course – stands side; round course – outside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High numbers best for 5f to 7l.

Lift-hand course with long straights.

E course is SE of fown near A34. Railway station (service from London, Paddington) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members £17; Tattersalis £10; Silver Ring £4 (OAPs half price). CAR PARK: Southmend £2, Picnic area £4, remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS: J Gooden 35 wins from 135 rumers (£59%). P Chapple-Hyam 33-159 (208%). P Cole 24-38 (121%). R Hannon 24-44 (58%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: L Dettorl 48 wins from 238 rides (20.2%). T Outnin 37-285 (13%). Pat Eddery 30-294 (10.2%). K Fallon 20-407 (16.7%.

FAYOURITES: 195 wins from 605 races (32.2%).

BLINKERED PRIST TIME: Saharz (440). Evile Hone (vsored, 210).

2.10 RACING WELFARE CHARITIES, BRITISH SPORTING ART TRUST MAIDEN (CLASS D) £15,000 added 2YO 7f Penal-

		ty Value £11,576	
		BANGALORE (K Abdulle) B Hills 8 6	Paul Eddery
		PETE ITS (Hari Magnet) D Lotter 8 6	L Deltod 1
		BORDER PRINCE (R P & Michaelson & Mr D F Aliport) Baking 8 0 -	K Darley
		BOUND FOR PLEASURE (Action) G L Moore 8 0	Candy Morris 1
		BRING SWEETS (W J Gredley) B His 9 0	N Polland (S)
		CANDLERIGGS (The Right Angle Cub) E Dunlop 8 0	K Fellon 1
		CANYONLANDS (Shelid) Mohammed Sir M Stoute 8 D	R Cochrane 1
		LIBERTY LINES (USA) (Maksoum Al Maksoum) S H#6 8 0	
		MAGNO (USA) (H FI H Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 9 6	T Culon 2
1		PESHTIGO (USA) (Makkoum Al Makkoum) B Hits 9 0	
i		PETIT PALAIS (Bd Voute) B Meehan 8 D	M Tobbutt 1
,		RAJWHAN (USA) (19) (Mohammed Jaber) C British 9 0.	P Bobleson 2
i	3	REGAL PHILOSOPHER (15) (Trajon Partners) J Hills 8 0	RHHeT
í	•	SECOND NATURE (Hesmands Stud) J Duntop 9 0	R Hambar T
	0	SENURE (USA) (19) (K Abdula) R Charlon 9 6	Pat Eddard
	۰	SKY OF HOPE (FR) (Lucayan Stud) R Harmon 80	R Smith // 1
,		SURPRISE ENCOUNTER (Ahmed Al) E Dunko 8 0.	S Wishworth
		THAMES DANCER (USA) (J.S. Durningham) K McAulife 8 0	Allow 1
	•	TIGER TALK My J Gredby) S His 8 6	J. S. Smith (3)
ó		EVIE HONE (Jeromy Gompertz) 8 Hills 9 8	B Street 20
4		HEIGHT OF FANTASY (Windlower Oversees Holdings) J Dunlop 88.	W I O'Compar'
2	03	OURCKSTEP (14) (Lady Tenners) R Harron 6 9	Done O'North 1
3	24	UNTOLD RICHES (USA) (20) (Harried Seed) J Gorden 8 9	C Dutter
		- 23 declared -	
ETII	NG: 7-2	Berlioz, 6-1 Pechtigo, 7-1 Carlyoniands, 6-1 Candleriggs, Senera	, Quickstep, 10

Magno, Regal Philosophét, 19-1 others 1997: Or Fong 2 8 0 K Falon 6-1 (H Ceca) drawn (5) 17 ran

FORM GUIDE

Bengalore: Sanglamore half-brother to the stable's smart middle-distance coft Profix Looks betting the compensation of the second street of the second street of the second street out of an unraced mans, and surprisingly modestly bred for a Loder running. Self commends masserum respect, especially with Dettor in the place Better Cost out of whirming sprinter Princess Coord, Stable have unlesshed several potentially decent sorts here in the past and this one is the subject of good reports Bound For Pleasurer Heit-further to two winning sprinters, by Benatires who is well though Social For Pleasure: Nag-corner to two wring springers, by denames who a well intugat of as a first-season site. Static tends to bring youngaises along stowly, however Bring Sweets: Modestly-bred Sabrehill cott, half-brother to wirning sprinter Walk That Walk. Looks one of staticts lesser lights on lockay bookings. Candlerigger: Bred to be a sprinter, by Indian Ridge cost out of 6f winner Ridge Pool. Fallon looks a significant booking and static can get them ready first time. Canyoniumdar: Guich cost out of 6f and 7f winner Queens View. Well drawn for first run and

significant he is the stables sole representative Liberty Lines: Zizal cult, brother to 61 winner Prompt Delivery: Reportedly a decent long-term

Liberty Linear Zical cot, brother to 61 winner Frompt Delvion; Reportedly a decent long-term prospect, but Pearlings is the stables main hope integence. El Gran Senor cot, half-brother to winning miler in Paradicum, Stable have an excellent first-bran-out record and this one can be expected to go very well. Pearlings by Kris S, since of Dr Fong and Mikright Line, Half-brother to 2 winners in the USA, and reported to have been working well. Stable jockey takes the mount, and this cott must go well from a plum draw Petit Patele: Pare House colt, helf-brother to numerous wirning sprinters including Deadly

Dudley. Showed nothing in maiden at Newmorket that ome and makes no appeal Regal Philosophier: Looked green when promising second to Scarlet Raider in maiden at York. Should come on for the run but this in a much etronger contest. Second Nature: Second Sat oot, helf-brother to winners on Pat and over hurdles. Sure to have been well prepared but others make more appeal. Sensine: Sheped promisingly behind Mutamayyoz in maiden at Newmarket on debut, Looke sort to improve a good deal for the experience and Pat Eddery takes the ride. Sky Of Hope: Zeton cold, helf-brother to Several winners in France.
Surprise Encounter: Cadeaux Generoux cold, half-brother to 7f winner Night Plyst. Probably the section approach account of the production.

the stables second string on judicy bookings.
Themes Dancer: Green Dencer colt, helf-brother to a wirner in the USA. From one of the

Tiger falls. Sabrehill colt out of 1m4f winner Tebre. Not one of the stablets main hopes on jock

ey bookings Evila Hone: Royal Academy filly out of 1m2f winner Tochar Ban. Visored for debut, which is at from encouraging: Height Of Fantaury Shirby Heights filly out of 1m4f winner Paratan Fantasy. The family tend o Improve considerable with time and middle distances Dulidestept Led over 21 out when third behind Mother of Paral In filles meiden at Salishury.

		ly value collisso
		RATINGS
1	313414	ANDREYEV (12) (D) (J Painer-Brown) R Hannon 49 3
2		MUCHEA (19) (D) (Abion Investments) M Chernon 4 9 3
3	-16100	TUMBLEWEED REDGE (40)(C) (Tumbleweed Partners) 9 Meetres 5 9 3M Tebbott 5 8 779
4		DANISH RHAPSODY (16) (Chris Hardy & Friends) Lady Herries 5 8 0Paul Eddery 9 177
5	1-4006	KAHAL (39) (D) (Godolphin) Seeed bin Suroor 4 9 5
8		RUSSIAN REVIVAL (70)(CD) (Maktourn Al Maktourn) J Gosden 5 9 U.R Cochrane 13 120
7	25433-	WIND (USA) (277) (K Abdulle) R Charles 5 96
9		LA-FAAH (92) (CD) (Handan Al Makeum) S Hile 3 9 11
9	11-423	K Fallon 1 124
10	500010	LILLI CLARE (7) (D) (C Leafe) D Esworth 598P Robinson 4 170
Ħ	600333	SUPERCAL (7) (D) (The Caledonian Racing Society) D Elements 4 8 9Pat Eddary 2 114
12	735-45	ELSHAMONS (130) (D) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) A Stewart 3 8 6
73		WENDA (13) (B H Voisi) C Brittain 2 9 8K Darley 3 105
BET	TING: 5-	Kahel, 6-1 White, 7-1 Andrewsy, Danish Rhapsody, Joreis, 10-1 Muches, Russian

FORM GUIDE

Andreyev: Class performer who has been running over 6f this season, but won over this trip lest year. Well drawn and 4th in a fast-run race at Haydock last time. Muchea: Found fin too far lest time and proved the best of the English runners when 3rd at Deauville (6f) before that. Sound chance as he is genuine and consistent Temblewed Ridger: Made all when winning at Leopardstown in June, but his only run twice since then. Unplaced in an Ascor handicap last time and looks outclassed Danish Rhapacody: Unplaced at Baden-Baden last time, he finished 2nd to Muthalish them (7f) lest provide. Successful the fines lest season, but has treat won reserved. this trip Kahai: Finished behind Muchee when 6th at Deauville last time. Will be suited by this

return to 71 as he ran 4th to Cape Cross here (tm) in May and won tw

train as he ran only 4 times as a 3-y-0. Trip looks a shede too short La-Fasti: Runs well at Newbury and won the Horts Hill (7f) here lest October. Has a tough trak against this company on his return from a 13-week layoff lightly in South African where she won 6 of her 9 outlings. May have been unsuited by the softish ground at Goodwood last time, but this looks harder Lift! Cletre: Won over this trip last year and made some late headway when 8th to Ashaplat at Doncaster (7f) last week. Looks out of her depth Supercal: Hard to win with though often makes the trame in good company. Ran 3rd to Ashaplat at Doncaster lest week, though im searce snore suitable now Eistemmus: Sidelhed since May, she ran a promising race when 4th on her seasonal reappearance at Newmarket in April. Hard to assess, but looks up against it Wendar. Clive Brittain again gives it his best shot against the big gonz. Was receiving 9b when beaten 1½ i by Lift Clare at Epscan (Im) last time. Good lack Clive!

Minimum weight: 7st 10fb. True handicap weight: Eastwall Hall 7st 9fb.

Polier Prinse: Touch and consistent out who could make no impact behind One So Wonderful in Juddmonte infermational at fort. This is not as tough, but this sene of spinler Districtly North
has yet to convince as a financing happy at middle distances.
Postdoruse: Goes very well here and won it is contest test year in tight, finish from Swain,
Last seen out at Royal Associative months ago, when winning Handwicke Stalkes, but goes
well tresh and will take plenty of beating.
Tabper: Placed in arreal-field Group races the term, but yet to convince be is in the same
form as last year, and was disappointing in Ecipse at Sandown, when last seen out in July.
Capable of taking a herd if ann song, but best watched for the time being.
Zontarsdalt: Pollowed up wan in Brighton meiden when tending takian Osies in May, form
which is hard to weigh up. Found title when wat beasen in Ribbleadale Stalkes at Royal
Ascot when last seen out and has plenty of questions to answer.
Deck Streit: Connex has the race in good form, laving finished creditable second to Mercus Maximus in minor event at Donoster. Let more to find here, however
Declative Action: Won soft-ground maden at Notlingham last Clanber by four lengths from
Jaazim. Makes a betated reappearance and needs to find a lot of improvement.
Scomsed: impressive winner of smail races at Donoster and Kempton in the apring, but
has struggled in tougher company since. Something to find here
VERDICT: POSIDONAS has to be fanced to respect his success in this race less year.

VERDICT: POSIDONAS has to be fancied to repeat his success in this race last year, when he faced outpier opposition. He has not been seen since Royal Ascot, but goes will fresh and can take this en route to Longchamp, Tailpen is easily his most dangerous opponent on the book, but the Durlop number has been out of sorts this term and is best watched. Seemed makes most appeal of the others.

3.40 DUBAI AIRPORT WORLD TROPHY (Listed) BBC2 (CLASS A) £50,000 5f 34yds Pen V £30,780

BETTING: 9-2 Zelanda, 5-1 Bishopst Court, 7-1 Deshing Blue, Bollin Joanne, 9-1 My Best Velen-bie, Night Shot, 10-1 Proud Native, Rambling Bear, Lord (Cirtyre, 12-1 others 1997: Syming Parlamance 6 8 8 C Ruther 9-1 (H Cardy) drewn (S) 26 ran

FORM GUIDE

Yorkies Boy: Has had pienty to do since a mid-season breat, Won easily by 31/4/from Lord Krityre in April and is only 30 worse off, however draw is against him Sishops Count: Has to be held up and failed by only a neck to overhaul Essycall at Doncaster last week. Should not be fer away over this slightly longer trip Cathedrait. There is not much between him, Lord Krityre and Bishops Count on recent torn. However, he has not won since landing a meiden at Beverlay in April 553? Dawling Blaze: Firished 1/4 behind Bishops Court when 3rd at Doncaster last week and is 35 worse off Ash held by that those an their manning at Goodwood in July Descring Blue: Firstred 1/1 betind Bistops Court when 3rd at Doncaster last week and is 3b worse off. Also held by that horse on their running at Goodwood in July My Beet Valentine: Tough and consistent sort, who is effective from 5f-7t. Needs a fast-run 3f now and will run his usual sound race without possibly being good enough Proud Native: Fifth in a close fixish to Easycall at Doncaster last week and is 3b worse off with Bistops Court (2nd). Has the best of the draw that time. Remailing Bear, Sodh to Easycall at Doncaster last week, so held by several others in this race on that form. Badly drawn and may need further than 5t nowackys. Repertory: In good form in handcaps this seeson and made all in a fast time at Epoom last month. Held by Bishops Court (2b better off) on their running there in June Lord Kintyrac Consistent and probably found the fast ground against him when 3rd to Proud Native (1b better off for 1/4) at Nottingham (5f) last month. Night Shot: Had Catherds (8ft) befind when 4th of 21 to Cadeaux Cher at Doncaster (8f) last week. Will have to improve as he takes a stop up from handcaps here Boltin Jacenne: Close 4ft to Easycall at Doncaster last week and like the others who run again here, is 3lb with Bishops Court. May be coming back to form
Zetander Completed a hartick at Pontefact last month and dispose up up stat times when winning two et Newmarket. Still on the upgrade and will set a strong page.

VERDICT: This is almost a re-run of last week's Scarborough Stakes at Doncaster.

VERDICT: This is almost a re-run of last week's Scarborough Stakes at Doncaster when Bistrope Court came late to run Easycall to a neck, with Dashing Blue third, Boilto Joenne tourn. Proud Native fith and Rambling Beer sixth. As the draw seemed to have fittle effect there Bishops Court may again come out on top. However, provided site can act on this easiler going ZELANDA should be hard to calch. This tilly hes clocked some speedy three in warning her last time races on fast ground, including when besting Easycalt two lengths at Newmerket in July. 4.10 THIPLEPRINT HANDICAP (CLASS B) BBC2

BETTING: 3-1 Life Of Filey, 7-2 Sweetness Herself, 11-2 Further Flight, 8-1 Cyrlen, 10-1 Churtish Cherra, Murchem, Shooting Ught, 14-1 others 1997: Jyush 4 9 11 R Hills 6-1 (E Dunlop) drawn (4) 10 ren

FORM GUIDE

Sweetness Herself: Ran a most eye-catching race when third to Spint Of Love at Concaster, moving smoothly into lead 2f out but lying up. Needs holding up langer and befay is a good booking. Sure to go well. Further Pfights Vetsran who has been put away for an eutumn campaign and returns from a two-month legist here. Like to need the outing to but him spot on. Life Of Rilley: Improved form this season, winning handlespit at Sandown in July. Returns from a legist but well capable of going well and stable in the form Cyrians Gained biggest success in Northumberland Plate at Newceste in June. Below best in Ebor at York last time and could be in handlespen's grip now Churlish Charm: Progressive stayer who confirmed handel smart cot when best ing Berin by three lengths at Goodwood last time. Returns from a breek Murghern; Backward sort who has shown improved form of lets, running another as-cellent cace when second to Albertch at York. Steps up markedly in trip but gives to present it will suit him. Opeque: Seems not be firing at present and others make more appeal Stroothing Lights Batter known as a smart hurdler and as probably having a pipe-opetic of to a winter campaign here.

Shooting Light: Better known as a arrant number and is produce naving a per-operaer for a winter campaign here
Jamailcan Filight: Landad muddling race for Phi Bus Trophy at Ponterhand test time.

Lamailcan Filight: Landad muddling race for that was probably fluttered.

Can be made to look was treated on that effort but was probably fluttered.

Can be made to look was treated on the effort but was probably fluttered.

Can be made to look was treated on the effort but was probably fluttered.

Estimated that the speciation is not the first hundles but is well bred and open to improvement last two starts. Lip against it in his first hundles but well bred and open to improvement but not seen out since running poonly at Salisbury in June. Bred. to stay was VERDICT: This is complicated by a number returning from layoths. Charifish Charms to an improving stayor who looks sure to go well, while Sweetmass Herself is possed to run a big race. Murghest and Eastwell Hall step up to this trip for the trait time, but it is the proven stamba, and thrug form of his trainer, that make LIFE OF RILEY the selection. He is improving this season.

4.40 BONUSPRINT HANDICAP (CLASS D) £20,000 added 3YO 4020 UP AT THE TOP (8) [Ms E Roberts) B Hbs 9 7. Mt Hills 15
6-3020 CHIN CHMINET (8) (M J Gredor) B Hbs 9 7. M Pollard (5) 7
5-2198 SAHARA (17) (0) (Lord Lloyd-Webber) P Oole 9 4. 7 Cadem 17 B
201 LICREZIA (85) (8F] (Lord Webrelo) S in M Soule 8 2 Pak Endery 5
44-700 TALAMUZ (12) (0) (Harman A Maldeum) M Tergoring 8 5. Doubtids 16
4-333 SWEET SORROW (62) (Ms Ybraite) Alon) C Whill 8 12 M Fellon 10
5-4-333 SWEET SORROW (62) (Ms Ybraite) Alon) C Whill 8 12 L Touton 13
9-252 MOLE CHEEK (46) (Lord Velsoy) J Farebrew (8 7 L Detailor 13
9-252 MOLE CHEEK (46) (Lord Velsoy) J Farebrew (8 7 L Detailor 13
3-250 LA TOZIANA (33) (The Phentrum House Rethrea(R)) W Janes 8 8 M Tellohout 14
3-252 SOFT TOUCH (22) (Mind The Gap Phythership) Mass G Kelbows 8 8 S Drowno 3
00 A TOUCH (22) (Mind The Gap Phythership) Mass G Kelbows 8 8 S Drowno 3
01 A TOUCH (22) (Mind The Gap Phythership) Mass G Kelbows 8 8 S Drowno 3
02 A TOUCH (22) (Mind The Gap Phythership) Mass G Kelbows 8 8 D D Sweetings 9
03 H NONEYBRO (23) (J Deep W Mas 6 5 D Sweetings 9
04 HONEYBRO (23) (J Deep W Mas 6 5 D Sweetings 6
05-000 JERNOLE STORY (13) (Major & Ms. Kornard & Partners) P Webryn 8 4 Paul Eddery 11
05-504 PLIGHT FOR FREEDOM (117) (Mass Sarrontina Dard F Marphy 7 70 A McCarthy (3) 4
16 declared 16 declared 16 declared 17 G Mass Freedom 7 A Mind Carthy (3) 4 fillies 1m 2f Penalty Value £14,720

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handican weight: Fight For Freedom 7st 6th.
BETTING: 7-2 Obseron's Mistral, 6-1 Lucrosta, 7-1 Sabara, 6-1 Up At The Top, Mole Creek, 10-1
Honsybid, 12-1 Sweet Sorray, Exton., Soft Touch, India'd, Hall others
1997 Arriving 3 7 12 M Herny (3) 16-1 (J Hills) drawn (17) 17 ran

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Up At The Top: Kept on at one pace when 4th of 10 behind Shaska at Doncaster lest week with Chirn Chiminey 8th. Seems to have more to do here Chim. Chiminey: Unplaced behind Shaska at Doncaster lest week and was returning from a branek before that when unrer-up to Berin here test month Saterac Birnkered for the first time and wan manor events at Brighton and Ayr bettere stopping up to handicase. Has plently to do at the weights Lucrezda: Won weak readen at Chopstow in June and had limitations exposed when lest of 7 behind Sprindrift at Satesbury next time. Has a fairly lengthy lay-off to overcome Televieux Won a maden at Lingheid in May and then made little show when stepped up into handicap company. Has another stiff task this time. Observit's Mestral: Tries this trip for the first time and is not certain to stay. Won a maken at Window (hin) in July and is another who will find things harder. Sweet Sormer. Still a maiden, but the booking of Frankie Dettori looks interesting. Stayed on well to take 3rd here over this trip in July and hay need farther. Mole Creek: Lightly raced maiden, who was returning from a rad-season break when running Walfr to a neck at Newcestle last month. Should not be for sevay Totoms Has shown lair ability in maidens and lastes a stop up in trip here. Bred to stoy and could well improve sufficently for this longer distance.

La Tiziana: Has also been placed in maidens and was having her first outling since June when 7th to Best Of All in a handicap at Ripon last month. Should not be for sevay Totoms Has shown she stays this trip well, but does not look good enough A Touch Of Prost Sprang a 86-1 shock when just getting up in the last stride to wins at meriden at Lingheid from time, and hard to assess Honeythet: Cariffmed the promise she showed when third on her debut at Salsbury in June when winning a modest maiden at Lingheid from time, lawy save further scope Jungle Story. Started the season on a fairty high mark, but has since been dropped St. Fan second to liman here in

VERDICT: A difficult race with many of these filles stepping up to handicap company: after wirning their melden. Dettori is a significant booking for Sweet Scrrow, but she appears held by IMAMI on their running here in July, Imani has since finished tourth in a competitive handicap at Epsom when ridden by today's jockay Adrian McCerthy."

AYR

2.00 Late Night Lad 2.30 George Dillingham 3.00 Wish List 3.30 Johayro 4.00 Tarashaan 4.30 Elvis Reigns 5.00 Fearby Cross

GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

STALLS: Straight course - stands side; round course - outside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best 5/ 6 6t.

IL Left-hand galloping course.

Course is E of town on A758. Station Im. ADMISSION: Club
CS; Grandstand 28 (CAPs Insti-price). CAR PARK: Free.

IL LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston - 23 winners from 175 runners gives a success ratio of 13.1%; 8 Hills 21 from 65 (32.3%);
A Balley 14 from 96 (14.6%); Mrs M Reveloy 13 from 83 (15.7%).

IL LEADING JOCKEYS: J Wester 29 wins from 167 rides gives
a success ratio of 17.4%; D Holland 18 from 90 (20%); J Fortune
18 from 132 (13.6%); J Carroll 18 from 173 (3.2%).

IFAVOURTIES: 157 wins in 457 races (33.6%).

BLINGERED FIRST TIME: Eblana (visored, Boogy Woogy, Howay)
The Leds (200); Polly Miles (visored) (300); Darvas Sky (visored) (500).

2.00 SLATER AYRSHIRE HOSPICE SELLING STAKES (E) 25,000 2YO 1m

- 17 declared BETTING: 2-1 Scoop, 9-4 Family Tree, 10-1 Lashkuri Gold, Boogy Woogy,
12-1 Blackpool Rock, Late Night Lad, 14-1 Ottarbigton Girl, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT

Scoop, Boogy Woogy and Family Tree have the best form, but they are not inspring and it is worth gambling on improvement from BLACKPOOL. ROCk, The selection has theyed as it this ricreased test of starring will suit firm and hits a round action which hints that he should act on soft ground. 2.30 GLENFAIRN AYRSHIRE HOSPICE AMATEURS H'CAP (E) £4,000 1m 3f

3950 PMLMST (10) (CD) Mas. L Peratt 6 10 7. Mass R Clerk 20 6 03500 SHARP SARAH (14) 6 Adrods 3 10 6. ... Mr Y Lutentok (8) 6 SAKSS BLOWING AMWS (21) M Tomplas 4 10 5. ... Mr R Walford (8) 16 301423 COURAGE UNDER FIRE (25) (BF) D Arbuthol 3 10 3 05-014 NORTHERN ACCORD (10) (8P) Mrs. J Ramaden 4 9 13......

FORM VERDICT Leading amakeur Emma Ramsden has good prospects on NORTHERN ACCORD, who is less exposed than her rivals and should be well suited by the combrestion of mp and ground. He is going the right way, and is preferred to Riccarton and Begomat in an open race.

3.00 HARRY ROSEBERY STAKES (Listed)
(A) £15,000 added 2YO Sf

FÖRM VERDICT

Although taking quite a step up in class. Astonished, heavily backed in his last two starts, is fleely to be a warm order again. The Rismsdens believe the will prove better than half-brother Bishops Court in due course, but he has sometiming to prove. Better value may be represented by MONKSTON POINT, whose form looks solid and who will be suited by the return to the minimum trip. A fire through Blue Lotus gives him planty in hand of Wish List, though the fact that Con Collingers and the cover from reland is grough to earn her respect.

3.30 MOTHERWELL BRIDGE AYRSHIRE HOSPICE HANDICAP (D) 28,000 5f 3.3U HOSPICE HANDICAP (D) 28,000 5f

1 2250 STORYTELLER (8) (CD) M Dods 4 10 6 ... D Griffilis (5) 14 Y

2 10650 ARAIN (40) (D) J Borry 3 8 12 ... P Bradley (7) 20

44302 MISTER JOLSON (26) (D) R Hodges 9 9 11 ... M Fention 25

4 104030 PRINCE DOME (19) (D) M Varne 4 9 10 ... A Whelen 23

5 05914 MILMIGO PARK (12) (D) Mrs J Remoder 4 9 10 ... A Whelen 23

5 10594 MILMIGO PARK (12) (D) Mrs J Remoder 4 9 10 ... A Whelen 23

5 10594 MILMIGO PARK (12) (D) N Tribler 5 9 4 ... A Studioline (5) 13

9 00003 PREPORT (7) (D) D Notobs 3 9 1 ... D Holend 19

9 02000 SPMR (DS) (D) P Evens 4 8 8 ... D Holend 19

9 02000 SPMR (DS) (D) D Notobs 5 9 1 ... D Holend 19

10 02002 MRS MALAPROP (12) (D) M Cremon 3 9 S ... A Mackey 27

2 00020 BISCOE (14) (C) (D) Mrs J Remoder 8 8 13. Dean Michigay 27

2 00020 BISCOE (14) (C) (D) Mrs J Remoder 8 8 13. Dean Michigay 27

10 02016 MRS MALAPROP (12) (D) D Notobs 5 9 1 O Peers 15

14 14400 JOHANNO (3) (CD) J Golde 5 9 10 P Fondey (7) 6

10 00025 SOURE CORRIE (5) (CD) D Creptors 6 59 ... Cotheron 6 B

10 400033 CIMBERIAN CARLISO (22) T Easierby 3 8 7 ... L Chemock 9

10 40025 SIE MRE (22) (D) 6 Nicholis 6 9 7 J Carroll 16

10 6003 SIE NO SIE (22) (D) 6 Nicholis 6 9 7 J Carroll 16

10 40003 UJST BOB (10) (CD) J Kertievell 9 8 6 P Fibratick (5) 24

10 4003 BULKO (9) (D) 6 Nicholis 4 6 6 M Richardson 11

20 16569 SOUTHERN DOMINION (21) (CD) Mice J Crezz 6 8 6 815851 SOUTHERN DOMINION (21) (CD) Mass J Creza 6 8 6 ... 23 306020 GARNOCK VALLEY (22) (CD) J Berry 6 8 5 ... G Carter 21 S HETTHG: 7-1 Mungo Park, 8-1 Mister Joison, 10-1 Storyfuller, Mrs Male-prop, 12-1 Gonatals, Banzoa, Squire Corris, 14-1 Prince Dome, Cura-brian Caruso, 19-1 others

FORM VERDICT An usual, a wide-open after. Last year's renewal, also run on good to soft going, was dominated by low-drawn runners (first three from states six, eight and three); and it could be a similar story that time, with SOULINE CORRIE (drawn tit) running well enough to indicate that be will take advantage of a taxourable matrix before long, Cumbrien Corruso is elso expected to make a bold bid, while Mungo Park, who will have the strong pace te needs, could prove the pick of the high-drawn runners.

4.00 AYRSHIRE & GALLOWAY HOTEL HANDICAP (C) £10,000 3YO 1m 7f

TARASHAAN was so impressive last time that be has to be the salection under just a 5th penalty. There is a possibility that this ground may be a bit too soft for him, because he didnot have to be near his best when winning on soft at kenteron in Juria. As he won easily that day it is well worth giving him the benefit of the doubt. Comiche looks best of the rest. 4.30 ROHR AYRSHIRE HOSPICE EBF MAIDEN STAKES (D) 26,000 2YO 71 3 ELVIS REIGNS (20) Mrs J Rameden 9 6..... INTENSITY M Congions 8 6 G Duffield 6
4 LITTLE JOHN (ST) Mass L Perratt 9 6 J Weaver 3
6 LOVE BLESS (ISS) (12) M Johnston 6 6 D Holland 2
OCEAN DRIVE Mass L Perratt 9 6 W Supple 5

FORM VERDICT WEAVER OF WORDS looks a cut above her rivels on pedi-gree and is the form choice. A reversal would be no great sur-prise, given that her form is on much faster ground, however, with Elvis Reigns easily the most likely to trouble her of those with neceourse experience and newcomer latterably catch-ing the eye with his entry in the Racing Post Trophy. As usual in these sort of events, the betting should prove informative.

5.00 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (E) 25,000 added 2YO 69 3 FEARSY CROSS (22) J Bethell 6 12 ______ J Weaver 5 FYEBALLS OUT Sr M Prescott 8 9 ______ G Duffield 16 2 EYEBALLS OUT Sr M Prescrit 8.9 ... G Duffield 14
3 6 BLUE LARE ANGEL (118) R Fahry 9.5 ... A Culture 6
4 05 CHORLS OF APPROVAL (199) May 1, Pergit 8.5 ... Michael (7) 3
5 COUL BANK P Welryn 8.5 ... Cenroli 8
6 82250 GET STUCK IN (19) May 1. Pergit 8.5 ... L Characek 7
2 2003 SANSON'S LILLY (9) J J O'Nall 8.5 ... R Lappin 10
8 00 LA SOEUR D'ALBERT (10) J Berry 6.4 ... P Pessey 2
8 300 DARRAS SKY (78) May 5 Hot 8.3 ... P Pessey 2
9 10 ON LOCATION (45) M Torpière 6.0 ... M Kennedy 5
11 BLIES OF THE NIGHT N Telder 7.12 ... (Om Tieder 1
12 253440 DILETTO (16) E Alston 7.2 ... (Om Tieder 1
13 035423 JUST FOR YOU JANE (12) T J Naughton 7.12 ... J The 12 B
14 308032 RISKY EXPERIENCE (34) P Bons 7.2 ... J F Egen 4
15 03 TIME AND AGAIN (45) Min G Rees 7.12 ... J Mischity 13
16 15 declared ... Short 4.1 Eyeballs Out, 9.2 Fearby Cross, 5-1 Get Stuck in, 6-1 Just For You Jens, 0-1 Diletto, 19-1 Samson's Lifty, 14-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Southern reiders Eyebatils Out and Cool Bank are newcomers of considerable interest given that nothing stands out among those with resectures experience Get Stack to be good arough to win an event of this repure, but a tentative vote goes to PEAR-BY CROSS, whose that place at Carlisle three weeks ago was a debut effort that promised a good deel better.

FIRST SHOW NEWBURY 2.40 112 112 51 112 112

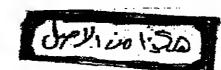
8-1 7-1 8-1 8-1 7-1 81 7-1 7-1 6-1 6-1 7-1 15-2 6-1 7-1 7-1 Danish Rhapidy 7-1 11-2 6-1 7-1 13-2 Muches 81 52 74 81 61 Russian Revival 61 71 61 52 52 Dahamma 10-1 10-1 9-1 10-1 10-1 Supercei 9-1 11-1 12-1 9-1 10-1 Leffech 144 121 11-1 141 141 LEE Chaine 20-1 30-1 20-1 25-1 20-1 Indianad R. 25-1 25-1 25-1 25-1 20-1 33-1 40-1 40-1 33-1 33-1

Each way a little the cricis, places 1, 2, 3 C Cost, H Wm HI, L Ladbokes, S Stanley, T Tote The Tota bet on the Newbury 3,10: 9-4 Positiones, 11-4 Talpan, 9-2 Scorned, NEWBURY 4.10 5-1 Dark Shell, 6-1 Zomaradah, 9-1 Polar Prince, 25-1 Decisive Action

92 51 92 92 51 Marghem 54 54 54 99 54 Second Herself 5-1 5-1 5-1 9-2 9-2 Churlish Chamin 9-2 6-1 9-2 11-2 6-1 Ulls of Filtery 13-2 6-1 13-2 7-1 7-4 Forther Flight 10:1 12-1 10:1 12-1 11-1 Binagara 24 11-1 12-1 14-1 12-1 Jamaican Flight 141 12-1 14-1 14-1 12-1 NEWBURY 971 Otaque 14-1 11-1 14-1 15-1 11-1 Shooting Light 12-1 10-1 12-1 14-1 10-1 972 YARMOUTH Sastrell Hall 18-1 14-1 10-1 14-1 14-1 973 Each way, a fifth the odds, places 1, 2, 3 C Corel, H Winn Hill, L. Lecturches, S Startley T Tale

NEWBURY 3.40 Biohope Court 41 9-2 4-1 9-2 4-1 41 92 41 41 41 Bollin Joseph 6-1 7-1 7-1 6-1: Osciolog Ellus 7-1 7-1 7-1 7-1 8-1 Night Shot 6-1 0-1 0-1 6-1 Proud Native 8-1 6-1 9-1 6-1 8-1 speriory 18-1 8-1 0-1 9-1 6-1 My Best Valline 12-1 8-1 12-1 11-1 9-1 Celhedral 10-1 12-1 10-1 12-1 14-1 Rembing Bear 16-1 16-1 16-1 16-1 16-1 Lord Kintyre 18-1 16-1 14-1 18-1 20-7 Yorkina Bloy 33-1 33-1 33-1 25-1 33-1 Each way, a 6th the odds, places 1, 2, 3

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Golf: Coach who has helped Swedes take on the world attempts to plot victory over United States in Solheim Cup

Nilsson shows Europe the way

WITH A population of under BY ANDY FARRELL nine million and snow on the ground for an annoyingly large part of the year, Sweden's rise to success in golf is one of sport's less likely developments. Yet the men's European tour regularly sees a Swede or two in contention each week and in the women's

game they positively dominate. In Annika Sorenstam, who last Sunday won for the fourth time in the United States this season, Lotta Neumann and Helen Alfredsson the once tennis-mad nation has produced three of the best golfers in the world. Add Catrin Nilsmark, Sophie Gustafson and Charlotta Sorenstam, Annika's younger sister, and you have half the European team to face the Americans at Muirfield Village in the Solheim Cup tomorrow.

All this is in no small part due to Pia Nilsson, the vice-captain two years ago, who has taken over from Mickey Walker as Europe's captain, It is a testament to the job Nilsson has done as the head coach of Swedish women's golf for the fast nine years, as well as her integrity and honesty, that there were few complaints when four of her five wild cards were compatriots.

Nilsson, 40, moved into coaching after stints as a player on both the American and European circuits, having earlier become one of the first in Columbus, Ohio

an American university. For the last three years. Nilsson has been in charge of the development of all Swedish golf - juniors, amateurs, professionals, men and women.

In November she will pass the responsibility over to others but is being wooed by tha Swedish Olympic Committee to become a consultant to other sports' head coaches. In July, she became the first sporting administrator to receive the King's Medal of the 8th Dimension, one of the country's highest honours bestowed by King Carl XVI. Alfredsson

when she caddied for Nilsson in a matchplay tournament. "I was 14 or 15 and Pia was playing against a girl who had been up all night. Pia was someone who did all the right things and was in bed by nine the night be-fore. But she lost - and obviously I realised then how I was going to prepare myself.
"We are very different peo-

ple - Pia was never the one to come with me to the nightchib," added Alfredsson. "She took it upon herself to educate herself in the field of coaching and understanding people. Everyone turns out different, even in

One of the keys of the Swedish model is that players



Catriona Matthew practises at Muirfield Village as she prepares for her Solheim Cup debut under the captaincy of Pia Nilsson (below)

kindergarten to the major speech (she has a stutter) did to be done. I know there are one of the best day's golf I have championships. As soon as a golfer turns professional in Britain, he or she is cut off from the amateur unions and left to fend for themselves. But this is no identikit factory line.

"On the men's side, that's the way it was run for some years," Nilsson said. "But it doesn't work. You can't put everyone through the same programme. We help each player find themselves.

Nilsson helped Annika Sorenstam overcome her early shyness and Gustafson as she worked on ensuring that her golfers from Sweden to attend receive support from the fear of making a winner's

"Many people say I am a natural leader but that is a surprise to me because early on I was shy," Nilsson said. "But ever since school I have been picked to be a leader and I never really understood why. Then as I started getting into coaching and heing head coach I could

"My aim is to create the enportant to respect what the players want and what is important to them but then go be- Saturday at St Pierre (when Eu-

tell there was something I liked

not stop her from winning. going to be lots of surprises for me during the week and I have set my mind for that to happen."

Nilsson has tried hard to make sure all the caddles and players' coaches feel part of the team effort and has to analyse the last-day collapse at St Pierre two years ago, when Europe's two-point lead was wiped out by a 10-2 defeat in the singles.

"That is something we have talked a lot about and tried to vironment for the week. It is im-figure out. What will be very important this time is to regroup after the Saturday play. That yand that to do what is needed rope took the day's play 6-2) was

ever seen. But playing 36 holes on both Friday and Saturday was new and everything was so hectic and there was so much to do. Everyone needs to think their match is the most important match of the day. Some of the players maybe got five per cent cautious in their play and that swept through the whole team. We will need to regroup and calm down for the singles."

According to Alfredsson, Nilsson will be the right person for the job. "When we get pumped up and go over the top, you need someone to make the rational decision," she said.



Johnson will have test on stiff neck

TRISH JOHNSON missed practice for the second day running and will face a fitness test today to see if she can play in the opening foursomes and four-balls of the Solheim Cup tomorrow, writes Andy Farrell.

Johnson, one of the five members of the European team to have played in all four previous matches, woke up on Tuesday with a bad back, which had become a stiff neck yesterday.

"It is getting better and feels freer today," said Johnson, who has been receiving treatment from a local chiropractor. She restricted herself to some chipping and putting yesterday morning and wore a rain jacket with the collar up to protect her neck.

The team captain, Pia Nilsson, can replace a player up until this afternoon's opening cere-mony. As Johnson qualified automatically, the replacement would be Maria Hjorth, the 24year-old Swede who just missed out in the points list. As it hap-pens, she would have been Nilsson's next pick

"Maria scored a 66 in the final round of last week's tournament on Sunday but is moving into a new apartment in Phoenix this week," Nilsson said. "I have left a message for her and we know she can get a direct flight to be here in time but I am confident that Trish will be able to play."

The Americans, who have won three of the four matches to date, have no injury worries, but Tammie Green will only play once a day on Jack Nicklaus Muirfield Village course as she is six months pregnant. "This is a tough course to walk so I think others will be hoping only to play once a day, too," Green said.

So far Green's pregnancy has not affected her golf. "My weight shifts a little bit now and then, depending on what side the baby's on," she said. "It's a little different, but I've been

YARMOUTH

HYPERION

2.20 Truth Seeker 2.50 Sotonlan 3.20 Fast Forward Fred 3.50 Mutafaweq 4.20 Jade Tiger 4.50 Newala 5.20 DANZINO (nap)

STALLS; Straight course – stands side; round course – Inside.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 51 to 1m. DIAW ADVANCE: Popil for 51 to 11

Left-hand course, level and fak.

M. Course is N of town on AMS. Station fm. ADMISSION: Club
CC2; Tattersells 0350; Family enclosure 54.50. CAR PARK: C1.

M. LEADING TRAINERS: H Cecil 28 wins from 103 runner (success rate 25.2%), C Britishin 23-152 (success rate 15.1%), M Bell
15-92 (success rate 16.5%), L. Cumani 14-65 (success rate

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Reid 8 wins from 40 rides (suc Tate 22.5%), A McGlone 9-66 (success rate 13.9%), G Bardwell 9-82 (success rate 9.8%), J Guitra 7-18 (success rate 5.9%), M FAVOURITES: 229 wins front 654 races (success rate 56.1%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Mail 74 (250); Treasure Chest (visces) (3.20): Midnight Sting (visored) (4.50).

2 20 GROSVENOR CASINO GREAT

YARMOUTH STAKES (C) \$7,250 2YU 67
1 064202 CHOMPER (5) M Channon 9 1C Louther 4
2 1 TRUTH SEEKER (13) P Makin 8 1
2 1 TRUTH SEEKER (13) P Molan 8 1
4 60 PETRUS (15) C British 8 TI
5 23 SIEGE (26) Sr M Stoute 8 11
8 TO FORANTE (USA) (92) R Chertern 8 TO T Sprate 5
1 1336 HALLOA (20) (D) J Fanshane 8 10 D O'Donohoe 7
8 1 TWO CLUBS (52) (D) Mrs J Cool 8 8
- 6 declared -
BETTING: 3-1 Slege, A-1 Chomper, Hallow, 11-2 Forente, 8-1 Truth Seek-

FORM VERDICT A teacheting event, highly-competitive for the money, and by no means straightforward to solve with any number open to improvement. Slege met much touted Stravinety in a York event working our well test time, but did not help his chance by refusing to settle, and preference is for well-regarded TRUTH SEEKER, impressive on his Haydock debut, though the likes of Florante and Two Clubs are respected.

2.50 GROSVENOR CASINO MEM HANDICAP (F) (DIV I) £3,000 add	BERS ded 6
* 10040 BAMBOLD (20) N Berry 7 8 13	ien (2) 2
2 A40900 MAI TAI (8) Mrs N Dutliets 8 9 10	J (1984)
4 030050 MEDDLE EAST (9) (D) T D Berron 5 6 8 S Send 5 10500 CHAKRA (7) J M Bradey 4 9 5 Pole 6 9 Dela	
6 36233 SOTONIAN (HOL) (26) P Polyme 5 9 3 Date G 7 060000 NAPOLEON STAR (52) (D) Miss J Craze 1 8 2 5 Web	-
8 686000 LEGAL LARK (15) (D) P Howing 6 9 T3	
10 002100 GUEST ENVOY (8) (D) C Allen 3 9 13	

I

115	WALTHAM BLACKSHO (19) K Magan 36 tt JP Plantama (7) 11
32	SURE TO DREAM (7) (0) R PHICE 5 8 8 A Chart 25
00	MARTINETALE (M) (D) R Bustmen 5 68 A Mudgure 12 B
œ	KDSEVO (12) O Stew 48 6
	MAKE READY (25) J Navin 4 6 1,
	LINNETSONG (113) O Chapter 3 6 1 Farring 8 B
	SING FOR ME (17) A Holinghand 3 & 6 A Nicholiu (5) 19
72	DONA FILIPA (10) (SF) Men L Statel 5 8 4
	ACTARECH (22) Min A King 582 F Lynch 5 V

FORM VERDICT

A big field, but not too many to fancy. With a high draw likely to be a big solventage again, there is a very strong case to be made for SURE TO DREAK, unexposed on furt and a highly-mornising second at Chapton lest time. Solventen deserves a wir, but this may not be his tips. 3.20 GROSVENOR CASINOS STAYERS HANDICAP (C) £7,750 2m 2f 51yds

FORM VERDICT Etterby Park should appreciate the extra starring test, but trings have not gone his way since an expalant Goodwood second and genuine and progressive FAST FORWARD FRED second and ganuine and progressive FAST FORWARD FRED is preferred, especially if the ground firms up. There must be a question mark against Treasure Cheat in his first-time visor

uled hard early lest time) and fellow maiden Royal Cron outd prefer rain rather them a drying wind.

3.50 EBF CUSTOM KITCHENS MAIDEN 00 FANCY MY CHANCE (20) E Durkp 60 ______ I Guien 13 00 HIGH TATHA (0) S Woods 60 _____ H Day 3 O Fauliner (3) 12

BLACKSHID (15) K Magan 36 H _P Pleatanne (7) 11	FORM VERDICT
MEAN (7) (5) R Philips 5 8 8	This looks bound for one of the newcomers, with MUTAPAW looking the most likely withing based on a series of top " tries and the stability superir record with youngelens, tho David Loder (Khayld) and Henry Cool (Mayo) are place resented.

4.20 LOTTIE & ALBERT BOTTON MEMORI-AL NURSERY H'CAP (E) £3,750 2YO 1m

-		_ · _ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
1	626	JADE TIGER (13) 8 Machen 97N Day 14
2	408	CROWN SECRET (12) P Harris 6 4
6	03540	GYPSY (36) (C) M Tomplare B 3
4	544	OPEN ARMS (12) C British 82
5	3340	PANGEER (NO) L. Current 9 2
8	0544	LADY OF ARAGON (T7) (RF) M Huston-Ellis 62 A Clark 6
1	004	SEGAMEN (25) Mrs P Sky 61
8	450406	DRURIDGE BAY (25) M Channon 91
6		FAITH AGAIN (81) C Wall 9 0
10		BANGENCHAM BREEZE (S) K Nory 9 0 Code (7) 10 Y
T		BOB'S BUSTER (25) J.L. Harts 6 D
2	C15005	CYRO (17) M Janes 8 2 N Calles (5) 4
IJ		ACE OF TRUMPS (10) W Happen 8 2
1	040	SALFORD FLYER (26) G Wings 6 ft
IJ	0600	FAST AND NEAT (SE G Laure 66 J Codes 3
10	050	MISTER PQ (29) J Snyth-Oaboums 8 5 Date Gibson 1
V		REVER BOY (26) P Shakespeare 6.4
-		ENCHANTED SILE ST C Dayer 6 2
	003160	KARAKUL (17) M Fethersten-Godley 63
20	03508	CAERDYDD FACH SI K Whyrove 7 13

—20 deciared —

BETTING: 6-1 Peacases, 3-1 Jack Tiger, Cyro., 10-1 Crown Secret, Lady
of Aragon, 12-1 Gypey, Open Arms, Segaries, Druridge Bay, Ace Of
Transpa, River Boy, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT A gristy solling-class rursery with little or no convincing form. SALFORD FLYER gate at tentative vote on the basis of a good.

	F	4.50	GRO	DSVEN	OR	CASIN 3,000 s	0	AAIDE	Ξ
	L	-	1 HAL	DICAL	(L) r	S,UU H	QQBQ	310	ı
	1		200 G	FT (45) C	WM 67			G Hind	1
	2	05-200	NEVEL	(38) W H	BODE 6		7	Sprake	1
1	3	-00030	DELCIA	M P PH	WIE 9 4.		C	LONGHA	1
•	4	\$-0000	O' HIGG	NS (34) (Morris 6	4		R Franci	à
	5	(20508	WYN (12	C Duye	64			Day 6	Q
3	8	(52500)	COUNS	L(14) 0	THE OWNER OF	61		Ferning	1
5	7	0340-0	HAPMA	光向ドラ	LIPOTTE (1,	Р	McCabe	1
2	6	040	HARE P	PK POLL	Y (17) A	Central 61_	G	Burthe	ī
•	9	-00000	SUNIUS	H (88) M	N Date	H 50		T Grapes	١
,	IJ	0-005	MI PICA	SSO (38)	M Tompid	ns 9 0	A N	cholis (5)
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,	12	002050	STAFFLE	E7 (17) N	(Britain (3 3		中向ス	,
ŀ	72	060683	HANCY	MALCHEY	(29) 145	O Valence	6 19_3	Sanden	ı
7	14	004-00	PRIORS	MOOR (5)	9 R Aras	tong 6 12.		_A Chri	ť
•	10	00300	SAND Y	AWK (B1)	0 Sm	7	R#	uiten (3)	1
•	16	00000	SAFABE	E (320) J (Duffman 8	IJ		ullen (5)	1
	7	6-00000	HDNG	IT STING	(25) J Je	1675 8 8	#	Gione 4	ļ
•						6			
	18	-00004	STEL I	IGER (10)	Bob Jon	es 8 8		D Elgge	1
•	20	44000		MEN SWA	f A Day		TO MA	d married	1

High numbers are favoured here and NEWALA, from the beingin-form Willie Heggles yard, is worth one lest chance. Bears Gift (reportedly coughed lest time) and Courseel are alter-natives, while Zada is interesting, coming from a shrewd yard

5.20 GROSVENOR CASINO MEMBERS HANDICAP (F) (DIV II) £3,000 added 6f

52065 STATOYORK (T) D STATE 5 8 11 ...

2	230000	MORY'S GRAB HIRE (7) (D) X hory 5 6 8.C Cuttin (7) 20 V
3		NEWLANDS CORNER (52) (D) J Alebust 5 9 6. D Blogs 6
4		SYCANORE LOOSE (TS) (D BF) ONE tols 78 (P P Murphy (S 5
5		PETITE DANSEUSE (9) (D) O Creption 4 63 J Femiling 1
6	0-3000	LOGANLEA (58) W Mason 4 9 2 P Stee (7) 17
7	0100000	DANZINO (38) Mrs N Michaeley 3 9 P
6	030020	BASSEUL BRAVE (12) (D) B Baugh 7 6 13 Date Gibson 14
6	004662	FRENCLY BRAVE (28) (D) Miss G Keleney 8 8 15
		C Copes (7) 16 B
IJ	50-000	CAMPIONE (45) M Tompkins 3 6 18 A Nicholis (5) 13
		TAMERIN BAY (84) M Britain 8 8 8
		PRIORY GARDENS (13) (0) J M Brackey 4 B SR Thornes (7) 10
		LACHESIS (28) (III) R McGrin 5 6 8
		MAPULSOF (USA) (30) Min A King 4 8 8
		PRESENT 'N CORRECT (25) J M Bradley 5 8 7C Carver (7) 2
		LA VOLTA (21) (D) Mins J Cress 5 8 6 D Merragis (5) 6 8
17	00-000	RESURRECTION (82) M Chapman 6 8 5
		SNIGFORYOURSUPPER (25) G Margaraon 4 62 M Henry 18
9	C/0500	LADY BENSON (10) W Brisbourne 5 8 2
30	000065	DENSBEN (21) (0) 0 9min 14 1 11

BETTOR: 9-2 Patter Denescos, 8-1 Friendly Brave, 7-1 Sycamore Lodge 8-1 Statoyork, 9-1 Novy's Grab Hire, 12-1 Newtonds Corner, Legenden

FORM VERDICT in-form FRIENDLY BRAVE, well drawn in stall 16, looks a solid

I Jackpot fever could hit in the next few days

with an expected pool of over £250,000 to tempt punters at Newbury today. The figure was boosted by a roll-over of £148,670 from Sandown yesterday which was assisted by the second leg victory of the 50-1 chance La Paola. The success of Brian Meehan's charge resulted in a residue of just 10p in the pool which lasted until the fifth race. "With a film Tote Trifecta bonus on Saturday and a burgeoning Jackpot, we could be creating some very wealthy punters over the next few days," the Tote's PR director, Rob Hartnett, said.

RACING RESULTS

SANDOWN Going: Good to soft

Grey (4th). 19 ram sh-hd, ah-hd, 1%, 1%, nk, (winne 19 ran sh-hd, 8h-hd, 1½: 174, list of chestrut filly by Comon Grounds out of Lotte Lexis, trained by 5 Moehan, Lambourn, for G Battoccin). Tota: win £382.20 places £4980, £150, £250, Dual forbeast; £220.80.

Runner: Cara Bille	
3.203 (handicap)	
1, GUINGEVILLE	es Hills 14-1
1. CANGEAITTE	D D Murphy 7-1
2. Cd d oro	W Burnie 14-1
3. Rymer's Rascal	T Aulan 12-1
4. Hoh Navigator	
Ales Ed Es Roles	8.1 OUE STORK /-1
Samura Santi 10-1 Per	Cht (50), 14-1 DU-
Ting. 14-1 Daintres.	14-1 Diskusha, 14-1

Moon Gorge, 18-1 Polich Spirit, 20-1 Top Ba-nans, 25-1 Russian Relation, 33-1 Super Monarch (6th). neurarch (edn).

19 ran. 3 l.·. l., 1 l., hd, 1. (witner bay gelding by Gulch out of Cor Anglaie, trained by Bulch out of Cor Anglaie, trained by Bulch out of Corne Sawuhridge).

Tota: win £18.10 places £3.40, £2.30, £2.90, £2.90.

Dual forecast: £101.40, CSF; £103.35.

Thosst: £1383.31.

3.50: (Im maiden filies stakes, 2yo)

1. SOCIAL SCENE ____ T Quinn 4-5 Fav Pet Eddery 8-1A McGlone 9-2 Aleo: 8-1 Crimson Glory (9th), 10-1 Ma-Anf (9th), 11-1 Kuwait Dawn, 20-1 Angal Bome (5th), 50-1 Dontbetonme, 50-1 Fustanella, 50-1 Moonté Water. 10 ran. ½, 1½, ½, 3, 2. (winner chestnut Rily by Grand Lodge out of Ardmelody. P Chap-ple-Hyert, Marton. for R Sangster and B Sangster). Tota: win £180 places £130, £230, £160 Dual forecast £040. Computer Straight

... R Mullen 9-1 T Sprake 8-1N Postard 16-1 2. Sint Kaldoun Also: 3-1 Fav Psibliesdale, 6-1 Windy Gulch (6th), 8-1 Habony, 10-1 Bobbydaz-zie, 10-1 Peridot, 10-1 Pride of My Heart (4th), 10-1 Respond (5th), 25-1 Honey Storm, 25-1 Nabl.

Storm. 20-1 Next.

12 Part. 15. 15. 42. 15. (Winner bay filly by Never So Bold out of Mango Sumpaquim, trained by Bon Hanbury of Newmanist for Mrs M Campbell.) Total win £10.90 places \$2.20, \$2.00, \$4.40. Qual Forecast. £5.40. Componer Straight Forecast: \$73.90. Tric-ast: \$1,053.40.

4.55: (5t claiming states)
1. MANNA'S BOYPat Eddary 11-2 3. Harryoliv Miss N Carlisia 20-1 Also: 9-4 Fav Aig Dancer (8th), 11-4 Lord High Admiral (8th), 8-1 Tempus Fugit, 9-1 That Man Again, 11-1 Longwick Lad, 25-1 Sonu Venture, 25-1 Chikapenny, 33-1 Crystel Craze, 50-1 Noble Water, 50-1 Palacegate Gold (4th), 50-1 Paralen Fortune. 14 ran. 11/4, 11/4, 11/4, rk, 1. (Winner bey gold-

ing by Rock City out of Hanpot, trained by J Berry at Cockernsm for G Tirbochi). Tete: win 2430 places 2440, 2380, 2490. Dual forecest 58200 CSF: 55839 Jawah _____R Hughes 14-1 Leighty Magic _____N Polant 12-1Pat Eddery 10-1

Alac: 52 Fey Fields of Ornegh (189), 5-1 Mutchen Tyrne, 10-1 Saintly Thoughts, 14-1 Ris-ing Spray, 16-1 Wild Colonial Boy, 20-1 Arctic (Sth.), 20-1 Premier League, 20-1 Tereyne, 25-1 Plying Colours, 25-1 San Garmore Melody, 33-1 May King Mayhem, 33-1 18 ran, 11/h, 11/h, 2 rik, (witner bey mars by Paintow Queet out of Strike Horne, teined

by S Dow at Epacra for The Lalamaha Partnership). Total: win £1070 places £2.60, £190 £180 £210 Dual forecast £17270 CSF: £10129 Tricest £126482 Jackpot: Not won. Pool of £148,570.43 carried forward to Newbury today. Pleospot: \$2,4680. Quadpot: \$16720. Place 6: \$35638. Place 5: £243.19.

Going: Good to firm 1.58: 1. PERUSING (J Forture) 2-7 fee; 2. Woolly Wiresome 20-1; 3. Nather's Boy 14-1 11 rain. 8, 11%. (L Current, Newmerlet). Bate CTO; STQ PESO, 52.20, DF: CSAO, CSF: SYADO.

2.25: 1. SAMUT (D O'Donohoe) 2-1 Jt fer; 2. Anspicious 2-1 Jt fer; 3. West Escape 12-1 15 ran. 27, 4 (J Gosdan, Newmarkst). Total 23:57; 21:41, 21:51, 23:41, DF: 53:50, CSF: 53:56. 2.66: 1. THEE TO WYN (D Holland) 14-1; 2. Swiss Toni Ti-1; 3. Nathan's Hero 25-1 17

ran. 100-30 fav Lucky Feather 1/4, 11/4 (J FitzGerald, Mallon). Rote: \$13.20; £2.60, £3.10,£5.50,£1.80 OF: £13.20 CSF; £16447. Tricast: \$3,683.94. No bid for the womer. 5.80: 1. EDMO HEIGHTS (L Charnock) 2-1 far; 2. Mice Ideas 7-1; 3. Sutterscotch 10-1 11 ran, ½, 5. (T Easterby, Metor), Total 53(6); CMO, £2.20, £3.50, DF; £6.90, CSF; 4.00: 1. MASTER CASTER (J Fortune) 5-

1, 2. Tipperary Sunset 14-1; 2. Knew's Ash 9-2 lav; 4. Bernesbo 12-1 18 ran. /r. 1 (Mis J Pernedon, Thish), Total 9430, Tu40, 2280, 2200, 2370, DF: 52270, CSF-58968, Tho-set: £326.82, NR: Forest Robin. 4.35: 1.ENTWHE (D O'Donotes) 8-1; 2. Pying The Fing 14-1; 3. Allnessd 7-2; 20 ran. 3-1 by Xhudu (Ser), Shind; 17. (J) Fandraws. Newmenton, Toke (Fig.); 55:90 (F/90, C210, DF: £88500, CSF; £72816.

5.05: L PHANTOM RING (5 Sanders) 14-1; 2. Dazzling Stone 8-1; 3. Bank House 33-1 18 rap. 13-8 by Tuecan Dream 3, 1/2. (A Bailey, Temporley), Total £220; £150, £220, £2520, OF: £10200, CSF: £12400 5.36: 1. BUZZ THE AGENT (G Parket) 7-1;

Jack 8-1. 16 ran. 2° A. 1° A. (M W Easterby, Sheriff Hutton). Tolan: 2°080; 2280, 2300, 22.00, DF: 2°1.50, CSF: 2°25.05, Tricest: £14804

Placepot: \$270. Quadpot: £900. Place 6: £32.08. Place 5: £2603.

YARMOUTH Going: Good to soft

2.05: 1. FRANCESCA'S POLLY (R His) 8-2.06: 1. FRANCESCA'S FOLLY (R Hills) 8-1; 2. Action Jackson H-1; 3. Seesy 10-1 17 ran. 11-4 lav Be Vellent (4th), 1½, ½, (J Hills), Totar 15:40; 11:80, 12:80, 12:30, 12:30. DF: 845.50 CSF. 10:65.8. Winner bought in for 62:50 guintess.

2.35; 1.3(FAMING HILL (1 Reid) 11-2; 2. My Learned Friend 33-1; 3. Fahs 10-1; 4. Brave Noble 25-1, 17 rec. 9-2 fev Zeldi 11/4. 1. (Sir Michael Stoute). Tota: £6.70; £190, £720, £180, £480 DF: £58.80 CSF; £59.51. Tricast \$1,668.71 Tota Titlacta: \$4,5000. 3.10:1. KUMAIT (FI Hist) 3-1: 2. To The Roof 100-30; 3. Tattinger 40-1, 7 ran. 11-8 lev Abreeze (5th), 11/4 rik (E Duniop), Totac 5400; \$180 \$250 DF: \$780 CSF: \$1245. 3.40: 1. SUBEEN (L Dettor) 11-10 tor; 2. Ballactic 11-2; 3. Dehelich 8-1, 14 ren. 3, 1/4. (D Loder). Tota: £180; £120; £170; £190; DF. 2520 CSF: 2701 NP. 23014

4.12 1.5UITE FACTORS (N Caller) 7-1; 2. Marigilario 20-1; 3. Comeousotthelog 25-1; 4. Miller's Double 33-1 18 ren. 6-1 "kfors Best Quest & Paties Danseuse. 11/4, 11/6. (K Burkel Total 2890: \$250 \$570 \$810 \$850 DF: F22920. CSF: £14182 Tricast: £938118. NFs: A Bresse, Spring Beacon. 4.48: 1. HOUSTON THATE (G Fautoner) 12-1; 2. Easser 7-4 fav; 3. Oath 9-4 17 ran.

Hd, 11/4. (D Loder), Total 22370; 6370, 5170, 6130, DF: 52250, OSF: 53016, NF: Soric Sep-5.15: 1. DELIRIOUS MONENT IS WHITM 16-1; 2. Swinging The Street 6-1; 3. Admirals Flome 14-1; 4. Switt 10-1, 17 ran. 2h,

11/L (P Webber). Tota: \$18.80; £3.10, £1.90, £1.20, £2.20, DF: £98.40, CSF: £54.14. THO

ast: 259090. Hismony Hall (4-1) was with-drawn not under orders: Rule 4 applies, 20p. in the pound. Piscopot: £43831. Quedoot: £1460. Pisco 6: £458.22. Pisco 5: £112.22.

Smart Savannah will bid to emu late stable-companion Tamarisk after getting off the mark at the sec-

and attempt in the European Breeders Fund Novice Stakes at Sandown yesterday. Roger Charlton's Primo Dominie colt, third to Crown of Trees at Kempton on his debut four weeks ago, sprang at the furlong pole to beat Diggit by three and a half lengths. The winner is now set for the Tattersalls Houghton Sales Conditions Stakes at Newmerket on September 29, which subsequent Haydock Group One winner Tamarisk, sold yesterday to the Coolmore Stud, won in 1997. Grangeville, beaten at odds-on in an Epsom maiden last month, atmed with a 14-1 win under top-weight in the Weatherbys Marketing and Sponsorship Services Handicap.

Clay attracts Berasategui to Britain

THE ATP Tour event on clay courts here this week is so much put of season that Alberto BY JOHN ROBERTS Berusategui is taking part. The in Bournemouth only other time the 25-year-old from Bilbao even set foot in Britain was for an overnight en route to the Orange Bowl junior tournament in Florida.

Tennis on clay, the sport's slowest surface, builds up in spring to a climax at the French Open in June. The West Hants Club used to stage one of the events leading to Paris - indeed the first open tournament in history was held here in 1968. The only obvious place to go from the clay courts in September is the beach (weather permitting).

There was great excitement a year ago. Greg Rusedski came directly from the US Open, where he was the runner-up to Pat Rafter, and confirmed his position as the first British man to reach the top 10 since computer rankings began in 1973.

Rusedski, a semi-finalist in the Samsung Open last year, decided to give the event a miss this week to rest from tournaments and attend to other commitments. Tim Henman, the British No 1, returned to Tashkent to defend the title he won on concrete courts last year. Both are due to play in next week's Davis Cup tie against India on concrete courts at Nottingham, where Britain try to win promotion to the World Group.

In the circumstances Rusedski and Henman should not be criticised for failing to support the Bournemouth tournament. It is not their fault that the surface is out of context with the season, any more than they are to blame for being the nation's only leading

The Lawn Tennis Association, who bought the clay-court event from Bordeaux three years ago, at the expense of the women's indoor tournament in Brighton, is committed to the date until 2000. Only then would it be possible to put Bournemouth back on the road to

Having spent years ha- Andre Agassi.

TENNIS

ranguing the LTA for neglecting clay-court tennis, which provides an ideal schooling for the groundstroke game, little purpose will be served by rubbing its nose in the stuff now. The governing body might lose more than the sum of the prize money, £250,000, on this week's enterprise, but may reap benefit in years to come.

Meanwhile Berasategui, the world No 16 and top seed, is making the most of his first appearance in a British tournament. He was the subject of a minor sensation a few months ago when his name appeared on the entry list for Wimbledon. We calmed down after he explained that the ATP Tour had made a clerical error.

It is not that Berasategui was told as a child that Britain was a bad place or that he is allergic to grass. He just believes that his game is. The man with the contorted forehand does not fancy his chances of trading shots from the baseline against the game's big servers.

"I'm going to go to Wimbledon for sure one day," Berasategui said yesterday, having advanced to the third round of the Samsung Open by defeating Martin Rodrigues, of Argentina, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4. "I can't finish my career without going to the tournament with the biggest history of all I hope to have at least one round, so I hope I don't have to play a Rusedski."

Berasategui, the runner-up to his compatriot Sergi Brugera at the 1994 French Open, had suffered nine defeats in a row before arriving in Bournemouth, the loss of form partly due to a lack of confidence following an injury.

At the start of the year, he made an impact on the rubberised concrete courts at the Australian Open with consecutive victories against Andrei Medvedev, Pat Rafter, the US Open champion, and

Uefa Cup: Liverpool look the only certain qualifiers after another tense night for English football

Villa owe a big debt to Vassell

BY PHIL SHAW

FOR A league which likes to see itself as the best in the world. the FA Carling Premiership endured patchy results in the Uefa Cup's first round, first leg matches. Its Scottish equivalent, forced into ever more anguished European inquests during the 90s, for once enjoyed the better of things.

After a night when the unlikely name of Darius Vassell hogged the headlines following his dramatic introduction at Villa Park, only one of the English quartet appear assured of progress. Liverpool won 3-0 at Kosice of Slovakia with another, more familiar substitute also having an instant impact. Robbie Fowler created a goal with his first touch in competitive action for seven months.

Aston Villa and Leeds United needed late goals - three in Villa's case - to ensure they take an advantage to Norway and Madeira respectively. Blackburn Rovers, by contrast, succumbed to Lyons in the final minutes, yet Rangers earned a draw at a similar stage in Israel and Celtic put in-ternal strife behind them to prevail in Portugal.

Villa, top of the domestic pile, trailed Stromsgodset 2-0 after 82 minutes. If their tactical naïvety in the first half did not augur well for a repeat of last season's run to the quarterfinals, their refusal to accept the seemingly inevitable was testament to the spirit fostered by John Gregory's management.

Vassell's goals, 10 seconds from the end of normal time and with the game's last kick, sealed an incredible 3-2 win. The 18-year-old Brummie, associated with Villa since he was 12, used to cheer Dwight Yorke from the Holte End. A week ago he drew comparisons with his hero after his second goal for England's youth team against the Republic of

Vasseil is one of several young players vying to join Lee



Darius Vassell celebrates after scoring his second goal and Aston Villa's winner against Stromsgodset in the Uefa Cup on Tuesday

Hendrie, 20, and Gareth Barry, return as an occasion for ex-17, in Gregory's starting line-up. Gordon Cowans, once a teenage prodigy himself and now coaching Villa's juniors, said: "After the Bosman ruling, it's vital we bring on our own players. Manchester United are best at it, but we're doing well." Gregory is likely to view the

perience. Stromsgodset have resisted the temptation to switch the match 30 miles north to the national stadium in Oslo. They believe their best chance is on the cramped pitch at their 7,000-capacity ground in the port of Drammen, However, having snatched defeat from

the jaws of victory, a team who have leaked two and a half goals a game this year may feel they have let their chance slip.

Leeds' disappointment at taking only a 1-0 lead was tempered by the satisfaction of denying Maritimo an away goal. Nigel Martyn has been

six games, and George Graham ternazionale and Switzerland will be confident that his team can make progress.

The Blackburn manager, Roy Hodgson, was uncharitable in defeat, "I don't think Lyons can honestly say it was a planned 1-0 victory, or the fruit of clever attacking or good decoach complained. Widely touted as a future England manager, Hodgson must find a way to turn dominance into goals if Rovers are not to make another early exit.

After their embarrassment in the European Cup, Celtic

Charbonnier, conceded a penalty for the first time in his career, hinting afterwards that his "victim", one Ofar Shitrit, had lived

pressive British win, 2-1 at Vitoria Guimaraes. Rangers' 1-1 draw in Jerusalem was a moral victory in more ways than one. Their French goalkeeper, Lionel

Gascoigne victim of muddled. thinking

PAUL GASCOIGNE may be hailed in some quarters as a footballing genius, but public perception of his powers of rational thought are less than flattering according to a survey which rates the Middlesbrough and former England midfielder as Britain's least intelligen person

The often troubled player polled 31 per cent and topped the list ahead of the model Melinda Messenger, who pulled 10 per cent of the votes. Anthea Turner, the former Lottery presenter, came third with eight per cent, closely followed by the Democratic Unionist Party leader Ian Paisley and the former Spice Girl Geri Halliwell

The same research revealed the Virgin tycoon Richard Branson is seen as the country's most intelligent person. securing a 20 per cent backing and pipping the author Stephen Hawking into second place by one per cent.

Carol Vorderman, the numerate television presenter, finished third on 17 per cent ahead of the wildlife experi David Attenborough and inventor Clive Sinclair

The 1,004 people questioned for the survey for the scientific magazine Focus were also asked who they thought was the most intelligent politician in Britain.

Prime Minister Tony Blair topped the poll with 25 per cent of the votes, with Margare Thatcher following in second place with 22 per cent.

The Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown came third with five per cent, one per cent ahead of the Chancellor Gordon Brown and former Prime Minister John Major, who share fourth place.

As for sporting figures, the former Pakistan captain Imran Khan heads the list with 17 per cent of the poll, with the ex-England striker and television presenter Gary Lineker two per cent behind.

Cent belium.

Pocus Magazine Polls five least Intelligent personalities in Britain (figures in per cent): 1 Paul Gascoigne 31: 2 Melinda Messenger 10: 3 Anchea furner 8: 4 Ian Paisley 7; 5 Gert Hallinvell 6, Top five most knowligent sportsmort I Intran Khan 17: 2 Gary Lincher 15: 3 Glenn Hoddie 9: 4 Roger Black 7: 5 Michael Atheronf E.

Vega bites 🛌

at Pleat's

decision

RAMON VEGA hit out at David

Pleat, Tottenham's caretaker-

manager, after scoring the win-

ning goal in Spurs' Worthington

Cup second round first leg

game at Brentford on Tuesday.

wrong to drop him from the team which lost to Middlesbrough on Sunday. The much-maligned Swiss international

defender spared Spurs' blush-

Vega insisted that Pleat was.

Chelsea's rota system frustrates Laudrup

BRIAN LAUDRUP yesterday
highlighted the frustrations of Chelsea's squad rotation system, 24 hours before the opening game in their defence of the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

The Danish international has made one start for Chelsea this season, and only came on as an 89th-minute substitute

during the 2-1 win over Not-tingham Forest on Saturday.

After only five weeks at the club, Laudrup, signed on a free transfer from Rangers this summer, has made his feelings known to the player-manager. Gianluca Vialli.

Vialli has the task of keeping Gianfranco Zola, Pierluigi Casiraghi, Tore Andre Fio, himself and Laudrup happy while telling them nobody's place in the starting line-up is secure.

start to the season.

on the receiving end of himself when Ruud Gullit was coach. "I have been to a meeting

with Vialli and the other forwards at the club," Laudrup said as Chelsea prepared to entertain the Swedish side, Helsingborg, tonight. Vialli said that he regards us all as stars and that we actually each of us should play every single time, but he would not give any guar-

antees to any of us. "His message was that none of us can feel secure of a spot in the starting line-up and of

course that's a new situation for me that I have to get used to. "I didn't like the same system at Milan, and the big danger is that some players might never find the right rhythm." Indeed, Chelsea have so far

Jones moans about slackers

a bit in timing and only playing big matches will help me now." failed to find the rhythm that took them to two cup triumphs last year Laudrup puts that down to a lack of playing time squad to choose from, with only Dan Petrescu missing for the team to gel together and through suspension. The cap-tain, Dennis Wise, is available is desperate to get as much

match practice as possible to prove his worth. "I need all the playing time that I can possibly get right now because it was a big problem in my league debut that my teammates didn't know me and I didn't know them," he said. "I was criticised for my debut but

please notice I played in a strange role in right midfield which is not my favourite space "I think that Vialli has al-ready seen that the best space

for me is as the free runner behind the forwards like I played for Rangers and Denmark. "Physically I am fit but I lack

again after his three-match ban following his dismissal against Atletico Madrid in a pre-

season tournament Though Chelsea should have Inough Cheisea should have little problem squeezing past the Swedish part-timers, they have been taking no chances for tonight's first leg, spending Tuesday after training studying videos of the Swedish side

Vialli has an almost full

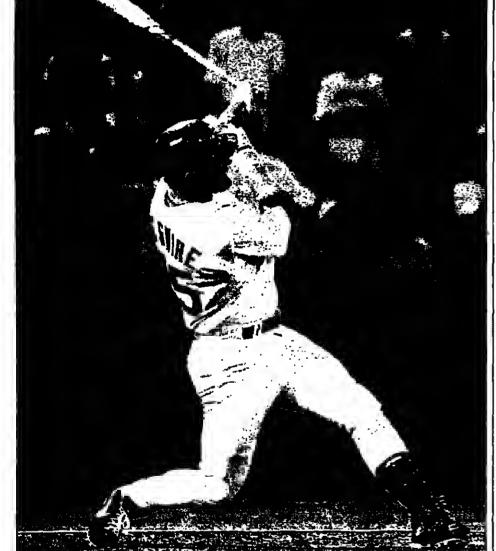
When you don't know one player from the other team you have to be careful," Marcel Desailly, another of Chelsea's foreign summer signings, said yesterday. "Sometimes they

es with a powerful header for their third goal at Griffin Park, before denouncing Pleat. "Getting the winner here was the perfect reply to me being dropped," Vega said. "The manager was wrong to leave me out of the last game and this was my way of telling him. Now I am determined to

fight on and win over the fans." Vega has had a torrid time at White Hart Lane so far this season. He was the victim of the boo-boys in the club's opening home game of the season, which they lost to Sheffield. Wednesday, and has also been accused of receiving preferential treatment from his fellow countryman Christian Gross the club's last manager.

"I have had a lot of stick but I have had to face it. We all make mistakes but mine have been highlighted because I am a defender." Vega said. "As for people saying I was privileged.

my relationship with Christian was nothing special. I don't see why people make this connection just because we are both Swiss. Does it mean English managers favour English players? Of course not



Mark McGwire hits home run No 63 in St Louis on Tuesday

McGwire moves one up on Sosa

MARK McGWIRE, the St Louis Cardinals shugger, hit his 63rd home run of the season on Tuesday night, extending the all-time record and pulling one ahead of Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa.

McGwire hit a solo home run a double-header. to left-centre field off Jason

BASEBALL Christianson, the Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher, with one out in

the ninth innings. Pittsburgh

won 8-6 in the opening game of McGwire, who broke Roger

Maris's 37-year-old record of 61 a week ago, bit the pitch 385 feet. "People cheer 'come on Mark, we want you to hit one.' Boom, he hits it," said Tony La Russa, the Cardinals manager "How be does it, I have no idea. He is just remarkable."

DAVE JONES, the manager of Southampton, has told his experienced players "you've let me down" in the club's terrible

Division, in the Worthington Cup second-round, first-leg at Craven Cottage on Tuesday.

Jones was grateful just not

Jones was grateful just not to lose for the first time this sea-son but blamed the club's se-Southampton were one of the most improved sides in the mor professionals for a run of league last year and finished a results that has seen his side creditable 12th in the Premierbecome relegation favourites. "We have some good young ship table, but they are now bottom of the Premiership after players here, but it's my expe-

five successive defeats, inclurienced ones who are not perding a 5-0 thrashing by Charlforming at the minute." Jones said. "My chairman gives me It took the substitute James his full backing as do the board. Beattle to score his first goal for and I just want the backing of the club to salvage a draw the players because I'll give against Fulham, of the Second them everything I can.

"Confidence has been dent-ed, and I feel like I've been kicked from pillar to post. When expectations are high, like they were after last year, you're wondering why it's gone wrong. It's only the players that can pull themselves out of it.

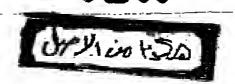
"No game is ever going to be easy now. It's hard to keep hattling, but that's what we have to do. The players are as baffled as everyone else why it's gone

Jones did not name names on Tuesday, but it was clear which players he thinks have not delivered so far this season.

Against Fulham, Mark Hughes barely touched the ball; Egil Ostenstad and David Howells both imped off; and Stuart Ripley was ineffective apart from the pass that lead to Beattie's equaliser.

Matt Le Tissier, making only his second start of the season, was also anonymous and, as Jones admitted, still looks unfit. "He did okay in spells but as I've said all along he isn't fully fit. He has had a traumatic 12 months as everybody knows and he just has to keep working at it like everybody else," the manager explained.

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Bungs Inquiry ends in a sham

TWO MONTHS short of five years after the instigation of the hungs inquiry, during which evidence from 66 people was taken covering over 10,000 pages and at a cost of over £1m, the Football Association yesterday finally delivered its eagerly awaited verdicts on those charged with misconduct - or rather it did not.

With the alacrity and resolution that one has come to expect of English football's governing body, it was decided to defer the sentence on the former Arsenal chief scout Steve Burtenshaw, who pleaded guilty to accepting an unauthorised payment, until "probably" today, while the verdict on Ronnie Fenton has been adjourned while investigations concerning his former club, Nottingham Forest, continue during "the next few

Burtenshaw apologised to yesterday's three-man disciplinary hearing after admitting that he received an illegal payment of £35.000 from the Norwegian agent, Rune Hauge, following the transfer in September 1992 of John Jensen from Brondby to Arsenal. Burtenshaw, now chief scout at Queen's Park Rangers, was charged after the Inland Revenue was alerted that a large sum of money had been deposited in an off shore

"The unauthorised payment is outside FA rules," the FA spokesman, Steve Double, said. "It was accepted by the FA commission that the payment was not solicited and counsel representing him said that other than this incident he had an unblemished 50-year record in football. He added he was guilty of misjudgement

for which be was deeply sorry." In the case of Fenton, the allegations concern a £45,000 payment from Hauge and a missing sum of £46,000 from the transfer of Neil Lyne and Tony Longhran from non-League Leicester United to

Forest. Fenton, who until recently was coaching in Malta, failed

to attend the hearing and

FOOTBALL

BY CLIVE WHITE

claimed he was outside FA jurisdiction because he had retired from the game. No mention was made of monies

being refunded. So peters out one of the great scandals of the modern game, which most definitely peaked with the sacking and one-year suspension of George Graham, the former League championship-winning manager of Arsenal - and he was back at work more than two years ago. Since when most people have either forgotten that there ever was a bungs inquiry or long since given up

The Labour MP Kate Hoey, whose speech in the House of Commons in January 1995 did much to highlight the question of corruption in football, wished to have nothing to do

with the matter yesterday. 'I haven't been involved in it for a year so I'd rather not comment. It's not my area ask the Minister of Sport," she

Having withdrawn the charges against Brian Clough on the grounds of ill health and with the inquiry team unable to establish that there was any case to answer against Terry Venables, Graeme Souness and Dave Bassett, the FA was left with very much Second Division figures in Burtenshaw and Fenton while the charge against Premier League Nottinghem Forest in-volves an administration which is no longer in place at the club.

evidence of deep-rooted corruption in the game. "No matter which way you look at it, the report highlighted that there were very few irregularities," John Barnwell, the chief executive of the

The inquiry team had

claimed they could find no

tion, said yesterday. "With the involvement in football of pics has come better business practise, which has tightened whatever loopholes were possibly there."

YESTEROAY

AWON INSURANCE COMMINATION Plast Dhidslon: Arsenal 3 Tottenham & Luton 3 Reading 0: Bournemouth 3 Brentford 1; Barnet 2 Gillinghem 2.

PONTINES LEAGUE Secund Dhidslon: Notts County 2 Huddersfield 0; Lincoln 1 Blackpool 1. Taired Dhidslon: Rochdole 2 Bury 2: Carlisic 3 Walsaff 1.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

JUFFA CAP Flux round first legs Aston VIIla 3 Stromsgodes (Nor) 2, Blackburn O Lyone
(F) 1; Rosice (Sloval) O Lherpool 3; Leob 1
Maritimo (For) O: Bettar Joneslem (Rot) 1
Maritimo (For) O: Bettar Joneslem (Rot)
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Maritimo (For) O: Bettar Joneslem (Rot)
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Bucharest (Rom) 3 Valencia (Sp) 4, WORTHWEST OR CUP Second resuld films for Barnsley 3 Reading C Backpool 2 Gannoure 1, Bolison 3 Hall 1; Boulmermouth 1 Walkers 1; Brent-ford 2 Rottemburn 3; Bury 3 Crystal Palace C; Suffarm 1 Soutismepton 1; Halfars 1 Bradford Cry 2; Haddersfield 1 Everon 1; Japonich 2 Li-ton 1; Leyton Orient 1 Notchigham Forest 5; Mapclesfield 0 Brandingham 3; Norrhampton 2 West Ham C; Portsmouth 2 Wirmbleston 1; Stefffield Unit 2 Grimsby 1; Sunderland 3 Chester 0.

League Managers' Associa-

Britain next stop for the transatlantic windsurfers



Sweden's Anders Bringdal cuts a lone figure as he leads the fleet on the second day of the testing Transatlantic Windsorf Race from Newfoundland to Britain. Four teams, supported by a Russian ice-breaker acting as a mother ship, are competing

Enthusiasm returns to booming Bristol

SIT DOWN, take a deep breath and prepare yourself for a shock. English rugby union has produced its first good news story of a season already stained by the blood of countless boardroom skirmishes. Astonishingly enough, it concerns Bristol, the

original bad-vibe downbeats of the Allied Dunbar Premiership. Less than two months after emerging from the dark depths of receivership, the chib is celebrating its brightest set of economic indicators since the onset of professionalism. Bristol have taken around

E77,000 in season ticket receipts in recent weeks - indeed, 150 new subscribers signed up during the course of last Satur--and latest figures suggest the 1,000 mark. Those pickings are unexpectedly rich, given that the Memorial Grounders were relegated from the top flight last season and, for the first time in well over a century, find themselves denied competitive access to Gloucester, Leicester and

"The Bristol public has been magnificent," said Andy Brassington, the club's marketing manager, yesterday. "The by Keith Rowlands, the chief ex-people here have always had an ecutive of next year's Cardiffinstinctive love of rugby and based competition. Rowlands

Northampton.

RUGBY UNION BY CHRIS HEWETT

that support and enthusiasm is beginning to show itself again after some very lean years. With all due respect to the previous management regime, I think people know quality when they see it. Bob Dwyer and Jack Rowell are serious operators." Dwyer is trading on his im-

peccable Wallaby credentials in an effort to recruit David Knox, the former Australian Test stand-off, and success on that front would send shivers throughout the length and breadth of Allied Dunbar Two, as well as all the right signals day's 50-point victory over Fylde to the sporting public. "Bob has some tremendous contacts and membership will soon pass the I suspect we'll be a stronger outfit a few weeks down the road," said Brassington, who lost his job when the club went to the wall, only to return when Malcolm Pearce, a local millionaire, put his hand in his

pocket last month. Reports that supporters might be forced to shell out almost as much for a World Cup ticket as Pearce paid for an entire club were denied yesterday

said the most expensive seats at the new Millenium Stadium during the pool phase would be £50, a mere 25 per cent of the cost quoted by ticket agencies in London. He agreed, however, that tickets for the final might reach £150.

Jason Leonard, a front-row veteran of England's last two World Cup campaigns, appears before a Rugby Football Union disciplinary panel tonight fol-lowing his dismissal for stamping on Northampton's Budge Pountney last weekend.

Shane Howarth, the former All Blackfull-back, has declared himself available for Wales, whose coach, Graham Henry, happens to be a fellow New Zealander "He asked me about my eligibility and I told him that while one of my grandfathers was born in Lancashire, the other was born in Wales," said Howarth, who plays for Sale.

Henry will be sorely tempted to pull his countryman into the fold, especially as Kevin Morgan, last season's firstchoice No 15, has broken his thumb and will be sidelined for a good six weeks.

Two genuinely Welsh rugby league players, lestyn Harris and Anthony Sullivan, are also said to be in the new coach's

Ireland enlist Connolly & co

IRELAND HAVE named nine Great Britain internationals in their 24-man squad for the triangular series against Scotland and France. The squad, captained by Salford's Martin Crompton, includes Leeds' Adrian Morley and Gary Connolly, of Wigan, who are virtual certainties for Great Britain's Tests against New Zealand this

Others, such as London's Shaun Edwards and Mick Cassidy who has agreed a new twoyear contract at Wigan, will be on the fringes of Andy Good-way's team, which could affect their availability for the games against France in Dublin on 4 November and against Scotland

in Glasgow two weeks later. en so, the Irish cos Steve O'Neill, still feels he has the players to win the tournament. There are some real quality players on show in this tournament and it will provide a perfect forerunner for the Rugby League's ambitions to start a five nations' cham-

pionship," he said. The managing director of Super League, Maurice Lindsay, has defended plans for an extended league season, intended to boost clubs' revenue, next year. The proposals for extra midweek games have

BY DAVE HADFIELD

heen criticised by coaches, players and the Great Britain management

"The proposed 30-game Super League in 1999 cannot be compared to past years when players were involved in a Charity Shield, County Cups, the War of the Roses, the Regal Trophy, the Challenge Cup, the Premiership and a 16-team league," he said.

"I was chairman of a leading club for almost a decade and twice the Great Britain tour manager I believe that I am well placed to make a judgement on over-playing. Everyone international football, but that is not possible without a thriving club structure."

Lindsay also said that, con-

trary to the Rugby League's view, he did not expect the game as a whole to have to ratify a new fixture structure. TAINY 2 DEW INCUIPE STRICTURE.

DELIAND SOUAD (Plangular Tournareact; Burgers Salford, Carriny (Dublis
Bues), Cannidy (Wigan), Olid (Festierstore),
Genry (Dublis Bues), Comodity (Wigan),
Crompton (Salford, Capt), Dunyer (Bradford),
Eccles (Salford), Edwards (Lordon), Forster
(Warnington), Grey (Banger Vikings), Hararon (Bradford), Haryes (St Helens), Lowes,
Bradford), Martyn St Helens), McDeminote
(Jectic), Moring (Lects), O'Comor (Mgan),
O'Sullbran (Dublis Blues), Pridamance (St
Helens), Prescott (Hull), Ryan (Dublis
Blues), Sanita (Hull NR).

Whitaker to miss World **Games**

By GENEVIEVE MURPHY

THE GREAT BRITAIN show jumping selectors had an easy task yesterday when they met to pick the last two riders for the World Equestrian Games. which will be officially opened in Rome on 30 September.

Geoff Billington and John Whitaker, second and fifth in the Calgary Grand Prix on Sunday, were obvious choices. They join the trio who had already qualified through the series of team trials: James Fisher, Di Lampard and Nick Skelton. The more difficult problem of picking the four team riders and the travelling reserve has been postponed to a later date.

Skelton, who was omitted from the European Championships last year, must now be first choice for the team after three grand prix victories (including the lucrative one in Calgary) on Virtual Village Hopes are High, with whom be teamed up in July.

This time it is Michael Whitaker, another regular team member, who misses out. The last time Whitaker was on the sidelines at a major championship was in 1988 at the Olympic Games in Seoul. He has otherwise been chosen every year from 1984 to 1997.

The show jumping squad is the last to be named for Britain, one of the eight nations out of 42 entered who will be sending full teams in all five disciplines.
GREAT ERITAIN TEAM (for World Equestrian Games, Rome, 30 Sep-17 Oct): Show jumple; G Biffington (Virtual Village It's Otto), J Pisher (Remille), D Lastrapard (Abbertoil Dream), N Shelton (Virtual Village Hopes are High) J Whitaiker (Virtual Village Heymani, Three-day sewate P Backett (Watermain III), J Brakement (Over to You), K Dison (Foo Smart), G Parsonage (Magic Rogue), P Phillipps (Coral Cove) N Taylor (The Frenchman II), Reservet C Ridley (Rikstatiger), Dressaget R Dawlson (Histox Askari), F Eliberg (Arun Tor), E Pintrie (Legyini) S Phillips (Fun), Reservets: P Bigmood (Macho), K Mephann (Dikkiloo), Driving (Fourhorse bolims): G Bowman, G Bowman, Jr. P Thomas, Reservet R Bassett, Blen's wanting: R Townsend, J Croft, F Jones, Team wanting: P Beasley, J Eccles, K Hunt, L McElnay, H McKollibera, D Machay, P Murray, M Rawimson, A Rogerson, G Russell. full teams in all five disciplines.

TODAY'S NUMBER

50

The number of years (plus one day) since Don Bradman played his last innings in Britain . against Scotland in Aberdeen, where he

scored 123.

BASEBALL Mark McGwire of the St Louis Cardi-

Mark McGwire of the St Louis Cardinals hit his 63rd home run of the season against Pittsburgh on Tuesday night, extending the all-time record and pulling one ahead of the Chicago Cubs' Samuny Sosa.

ARRESTICAN LEAGUE Seattle 12 Minnesota 7: Kardas City 6 Caldand 3; Teras 6 Balthore 5: Cleveland 7 Toronto 3; Detroit 2 Chicago Write Sox 0; Tampa Bay 8 Anaheim (1, Boston 9 New York Yankees 4; Houston 1, Wist Game; 12 Innings).

ARTICHAL LEAGUE New York Mets 8 Houston 4 (second game); Pittsburgh 8 St Louis 6 (Fits game); 55 Louis 9 (Fitsburgh 3) second game; Cincional 5 Milwaukee 1; Fiordia 7 Montreal 4; Atlanta 3 Philadelphia 0, Artsona 7 San Francisco 6 (11 Innings); Cotorado 5 Los Angeles 4; Chicago Cubs 4 San Diego 2.

BASKETBALL

Chester Jets have signed Shawn Swords, who played for the Worthing Bears last season, but Cory McGee is to be released by the Cheshire club.

BOWLS GREENALI'S WATERLOO (Blackpool):
Onarter-finale: M Joger (Brighouse) bt B
Richards (Pudsey) 21-16: G Telford (Sale)
bt D Tonge (Fibron) 21-14; M Evans
(Chadsmoor) bt G Elis (Whitefield) 21-16:
Broadhurst (Mocclesfield) bt A Daykin
(Thongs Bridge) 21-16: Semi-finales: Jager bt Telford 21-14: Broadhurst bt Evans
31-18 Pinal: Jagger bt Broadhurst 21-18.

CRICKET

Northamptonshire's Mal Loye has been teed the Professional Cricketers' Association player of the year. The award gives the 25-year-old batsman a rare double, having been named the PCA double, having been named the PCA young player of the year in 1993. Loye won the award ahead of Angus Fraser (Middlesex), Graeme Hick (Morcester-shire) and Courtney Walsh (Glou-cestershire), Lancashire's Andy Flintoff is the PCA's young player of the year. The Middlesex wicketkeeper Keth Brown is retiring from first class cricket at the end of the current season in order to pursue a coaching career at Bramdean School in Exect.

SECOND XI CHAMPIONISHIP (Treaday, second day of thrus) Laborator, Lekestership 272 and 14-0, Lancashire 221-7dec IN T Wood 78, P C McKeown 75).

Spain's Jose Maria Jimenez won the Spain's Jose Maria Jimenez won the 1 th stage of the Vuelta a España on Wednesday, the mountain stage from Andorra to Cerler. The triumph was Jimenez's second successive first plosing and his third overall. His B. Westo teammate, Abraham Clano, in pitalned the leader's yellow Jersey.

FOOTBALL

Paul Stewart, the former England. Liverpool and Tottenham midfield-er, has signed for Worldington in the North Western Trains League.

SPORTING DIGEST Vera Pauw, the wife of Rangers' as-sistant manager, Bert van Lingen, is to take over as the Scottish women's national coach and technical direc-

12 Sept; S Davis (Swindon) 1 march from 19 Sept; C Morgan (Barroley) 1 march from 22 Sept; G Bergsuso (Bolton) 1 march from 22 Sept; G Clarlos (Marsefield) 3 matches from 22 Sept; M Westres (Letton Orient) 1 match from 22 Sept; B Westres (Letton Orient) 1 match from 19 Sept; T Origanon (Oldham) 1 match from 22 Sept; P Swean (Zamley) 3 matches from 23 Sept; R Lucais (Fallfac) 1 match from 23 Sept; R Lucais (Fallfac) 1 match from 23 Sept; L Newton (Chesterfield) 3 matches from 26 Sept; (Fire causidams): S Clark (Leyton Orient) 1 match from 22 Sept; J Rees (Exerce Cut) 1 match from 22 Sept; J Rees (Exerce Cut) 1 match from 22 Sept; J March from 23 Sept. to take over as the Scottish women's national coach and technical director. She spent 12 years as coach and advisor at the Dutch FA and won a record number of caps for Holland, appearing 87 times.

FIFA SEPTEMBER WORLD RANKINGS.

(August ranking in brackets): 11 (18 cad)

73.65 points: 2 (2) France 69.21; 3 (3) Germany 67.75; 4 (4) Croaté 65.64; 5 (5), 7; 8 (9); 9 (9) Netherlands 61.77; 10 (12) Mexico 61.88; 11 (10) England 61.36; 12 (15) Chile 59.49; 13 (13) Romano 59.08; 14 (14) Spain 58.63; 15 (16) Morocco 56.60; 16 (11) Norway 58.51; 17 (18) US 57.04; 16 (17) Demont 55.69; 21 (22) Japan 54.57; 22 (25) Paraguay 54.37; 23 (23) Zambie 54.23; 24 (19) Colombia 53.52; 25 (13) Sweden 53.13; 26 (26) England 52.62; 27 (29) Reside 52.87; 28 (20) Begium 52, 52; 22 (24) Austra 52.45; 26 (27) Jamach 52.32; 27 (18) Expensive Substitution of the Colombia 53.52; 25 (17) Sweden 53.13; 26 (26) England 52.52; 25 (24) Austra 52.45; 26 (27) Jamach 52.32; 27 (19) Reside 52.87; 28 (29) England 52.52; 25 (24) Austra 52.45; 26 (27) Jamach 52.32; 26 (28) Expensive Substitution of the Colombia 54.26; 27 (29) Reside 52.87; 28 (29) England 52.52; 25 (24) Austra 52.45; 26 (25) England 52.52; 25 (27) England 52.52; 26 (27) Jamach 52.52; 25 (24) Austra 52.45; 26 (27) Jamach 52.52; 25 (24) Austra 52.45; 26 (25) England 52.52; 27 (29) Expensive Substitution of the Colombia 54 (20) England 54 (20)

Jesper Parmevik, the Swede who has played on the US Tour since 1994, has rejoined the European circuit so he will be eligible to earn points towards the 1999 European Ryder Cup squad.

squad.

Justin Rose comfortably avoided the cut in the European PGA pre-qualifier at Chart Hills, Kent, after a second-round 72 left him four over par on 14a. However, the 18-year-old is still some way from making it to the final 10 who will go to the PGA qualifying school at San Roque and Sotogrande. There are nine guys at 200 or better so realistically I've got to hit something like a 66," he pre-dicted, ahead of today's round.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

POOLS DIVIDENDS
BRITTERS: Brable chance (two disdends only): 24gts \$10.43; 23 \$1.10.
Four draws: E5.90. Eight humans: £17.85.
The arways: £32.
Zettars: Brable chance (two dividends
only): 24gts: £1.95; 23 \$2.30. Four
draws: £4.00. Eight homes: £57.20. Four
aways: £8.20. Easy shr \$40.50. Alf
draws: twoble chance: 24gts: £11.05.
Lucky manbers: 1, 8, 30, 10, 14, 36.
LITILEMOODS: Brable chance: 24gts:
£237.20; 23 £20.25; 22 £1. Half-thme resalis: 24gts: (max): £50,000. Four
draws: £17.30; Nine Homes: £27.85; Nine
Anonys: £274.85.

INTER-SCHOOL CHAMPIONS IN (Cambridge): Impirgon Village College 3 Anch-ingbrooks School 3 Impington Village College won 23-21 on countback.

RUGBY UNION WORLD CUP AFRICAN QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT (Casabiance): Zimbab-we 32 Nory Coast 0.

SUMO ALTUMN GRAND TOURNAMENT (Range) Feurth day (of 15): Toldssumf (won 3 lost 1) bit Kottonssums (0-4): Told (3-1) bit Walsando (a-2): Assnessio (3-1) bit leafo (2-2): Astnessio (3-1) bit leafo (2-2): Astnessio (3-2) bit Higonomia (2-2): Hamanostima (2-2) bit Higonomia (2-3): Katho (1-3): bit Kottonishibi (0-4): Tochmonada (3-1) bit Kottonishibi (0-4): Tochmonada (3-1) bit Anglyama (1-3): Walsanosato (3-1) bit Kottonyu (2-2): Musoyama (2-2) bit Nyolastauzan

FOOTBALL RESULTS

FOOTBALL CONFERENCE: Fernborough a Kingstonian 2: Leck 3 Barrow 1: Southport 3 Donaster 2: Testron 0 Meretond 1: Working 0 Welling 0.

PARAPITERS LEMBUR Pression 1: Working 0 Welling 0.

PARAPITERS LEMBUR Pression 2: Mestings 1: Historian Bart 2 Meyamouth 1: Bromagnov 4 Grantham 2: Committings City 0 Heatings 1: Historian 3: Greatly 4: Recessor 1 Absension 2: Meretry 1 yell 6 Emission 1 Bernston 1: Conference 1: Broth Util 1: Militarus 1: British as Blacton 2: Historian 1: Section Coldinate 1: Conference 1: Broth Heatings 1: Section Coldinate 1: Conference 1: Broth Heatings 1: Section Coldinate 1: Conference 1: Broth Heatings 1: Section Coldinate 1: Conference 1: Section 1: Raddiffe 3 Mitton 4; Tailford 3 Ashton Und 1.

RYMAN LEASUR, Francisc Divisions Ayesbury 3 Duhich (2 Barbingtole 2 Horon 1; Bescon's Stortford 1 Entheld 2: Broming 1 Attentive 1;
Chasham O Hendon 2; Gravered 0 Billerlosy (2 Hamphon 2 Slough 2 Sutton Und 2 Borham Mood 1; Walton in Herstam O Heydridge 1.
First Obsisions: Barton Rovers 1 Firmford 1;
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PA CARLEBERG WASE Parts qualifying rounds Islington St Marys 2 Burnham 1. UMASPORT UMETED COURTIES LEASHE Premier Delesions Beston Town 1 Spaking 2: Destocacy 3 Cogenhoe 4: Ford Sports 0 Northampton Spencer 2: Hobsesch 1 Bourne 3: Kempston 1 Potton 1; Long Buckly 2 Buchrigham 4: Sall Corby 0 Wellingborouph 1; Son-fold 0 St Neots 3; Wootton 2 Eynesbury 1. Harrier of History Courty 1: East 1 Hospital 1. rois U St Neots 3: Wootton 2 Eynesbury 1. UNREET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Divisions Broadbridge Heach 2 Whistonen 3: Pagham 0 Portled 0: Rednil 4 Horston YMCA 3: Wick 1 Chichester City 0. AENOTT UNSURABLE ROSTNERN LEAGUE First Division: Marsie 2 Dunston FB 1.

FB 1.

JENSON MERSSEX LEASURE Newbury A
CONES Sports 2; Totton 2 East Cowes 1; BAT
O Winforms 1; Boursemouth PC 1 Gesport Borough 1; Christoharth 2 Downton 0; Thetoham 4 Whitcharth 1.
JENSON EASTERM LEASURE CLIP Prolitobarry result: Clacker 3 Stannely 0; Old 4 Bury
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Parfeston 2 Softwary Town 2; Histon 2
Varmouth 1; March 2 Stanneries 2.

Varmouth 1; March 2 Stanneries 2. Termouth 1; Narch 2 Stowmenter 2; MORTHBERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Divisions Amethorpe 9 Thackey 2; Amoud 1 Brigg 2; Denyby 2 Ossert flown 2; Cassimosphorn 2 Seby b; Leverseige 3 Sheffled 5; Malby 1 Porcetact 0; Ossert Abson 1 Bothers

ton 1.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE First
Dielsten Atherton Colleries O Nercessle Town
5: Nitiggrue 2 St Helens 1; Maine Read O Worklegton 1; Mossley 4 Leek CSSG 6: Nantwick
1 Asherton LR 2: Prescot 3 Rossenskie 1: Selford 2 Ciffering 6: Vaushalf GM 1 Bootle 1.

MICHEN RESIDENTANCE COMMUNITION First Divisione Queen's Park Rengers 1 Millers 1.

CERTIFICITY MICH. SHERNOFF ROSH LEAGUE Franker District District District Of Content 1 Portadown C; Ornigh Newry 3. NATIONATEDE BRISH GOLD CUP First round: Coleraine 2 Distillery 2.

(1-3); Tamakasuga (1-3) bt Oejima (2-2); Takatoriki (2-2) bt Yochlazoma (0-4); Musashinaru (3-1) bt Chyosifiai (3-1); Kao (2-2) bt Datamonam (2-2); Wakenotera (4-0) bt Asahiyumka (2-2); Akebono (3-1) bt Mi-natofuji (0-4); Takanohana (3-1) bt Kotonowajac (2-2).

TENNIS
PROSEDENTS CUP (Tamblenet, Uschaltenet) First round: V Kafeinlew (Rus) by by M. Streen (Ger) 6-4 6-2; S. Pescusolido (I) bit K. Cartsen (Den) 7-6 6-2; H. Levy (Sribt) O Ogorodov (Urb) 6-4 3-6 6-3, Sechand robusts C. Pioline (Pr) by L. Teleman (I) 4-6 17-6 6-4; G. Edis (Arg) by V. Vochinov (Bela) 7-5 6-2; M. Safin (Rus) bit R. Nassen (Neth) 6-3 6-2; Y. Koteinlow (Rus) by D. Nashido (SA) 6-3 6-4; A. Volinea (Rom) by C. Rudd (Nor) 6-3 6-4; A. Volinea (Rom) by C. Rudd (Nor) 6-3 6-4; A. Volinea (Rom) by C. Rudd (Nor) 6-5 4-4 Norea (Rom) by C. Rudd (Sp) 6-4 6-5; F. Clavet (Sp) by C. Volin (Sp) 6-4 6-5; F. Clavet (Sp) by C. Rudd (Sp) 6-7 7-5; J. Alorsos (Sp) by T. Zib (C. Rudd (Sp) 1-0 rot; C. Costa (Sp) by S. Grossjean (Fr) 6-7 7-6; Paulio (Sp) by S. Bruspette (N) 6-8 (Sp) by C. Rudd (Sp) by R. Roddiguez (Arg) 6-3 4-6 6-4; V. Sartopadre (N) by M. Kohinston (Sen) 6-9 3; M.K. Goeller (Sen) by T. Nyddell (Swe) 7-6 6-2; A Lopez-Moron (Sp) by Oserrano (Sp) 4-6 6-6 6-2. TENNIS

4-6 5-4 6-2.

ATP TOUR RUBINGS (after US Open):
1 PSempras (CS) 4,015 pcs; 2 PRefter (Aus)
3,575; 3 M Rios (Celler) 3,467; 4 P Kords
(Cz Rep) 2,906; 5 C Mooga (Sp) 2,585; 6 K
Rucera (Slovek) 2,732; 7 A Correcta (Sp)
2,629; 8 A Agassi (US) 2,55; 9 R Kraficki
(Neth) 2,534; 10 V Kafenikov (Rus) 2,414;
11 T Henman (G8) 2,208.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL 7.45 unless stated

7.45 unless stoted
EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP
FREST ROUND FIRST LEG
Cheisea v Heisingborg (Swe)
Hearts v Raal Mailiorta (Sp) (8.0)
Hearts v Raal Mailiorta (Sp) (8.0)
PONTITIES LEAGUE Premier Divisions
Aston Villa v Notskopan Forest (7.0);
Manchester Utd v Birmingham (7.0);
First Divisions Shelfield Wednesday v
Bolton (7.0);
AVON INSURANCE COMMENTERIORS

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Fulham v Crystal Palace (2.0). CRICKET

OKILA E I 10.30 uniess stoted BRITANNIC ASSURANCE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (First day of four, including Sunday): Derbys herbys herbyshire v Middlese. Chalmstored Essey Northenporshire. Cardiff: Glamorgan v Somerset. Old Trafford: Lancashire v Hampothe. Trant Bridget Nottinghamshire v Gloucestessive. The Owal Surrey v Leitestershire. Hower Susserv Vorkshire. Edgenston: Warwickshire v Arnt. Worcesters Worcestershire. Arnt. Morcesters Worcestershire.

shire v Durham ICE HOCKEY BENSON & HEDGES CUP: Cardiff Newcastle (7,0).

SPEEOWAY PREMIER LEAGUE Sheffield v Arena Es-sex (7.45).

OTHER SPORTS TERRES: Samsung Open men's rouma

*THE INDEPENDENT



The Independent have teamed up with Swiss Watchmakers OMEGA, to offer one lucky reader and a friend the opportunity to be guests for the weekend at the Luxembourg Grand Prix on Sunday, September 27th 1998. This fantastic prize Includes flights, hotel, transfers, weekend tickets to the Grand Prix and the chance to meet OMEGA ambassador Johnny Herbert.

The lucky winner will also win an Omega Watch, the Speedmaster Professional X-33, part of the legendary Speedmaster range, the one and only watch ever to be worn on the moon. OMEGA are also proud to be the 'Official Timekeeper' of the 1998 Goodwood Motor Circuit Revival which takes place over the weekend of September 18th - 20th 1998. The competition runner-up wins a pair of VIP tickets to the 1998 Goodwood Motor Circuit Revival which brings together the world's greatest and historic cars as well as such famous drivers as Damon Hill, Stirling Moss and Barry

To win one of these wonderful prizes all you have to do is dial the number below. answer the following question on the line and leave your name and full address and contact number:

- Q. Who was the first man to walk on the moon?
- I) Neil Armstrong
- 2) Yuri Gagarin 3) Buzz Aldrin

CALL 0930 515 848

Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. Winner picked at random after lines close midnight Wedn Usual independent Newspaper (UK) rules apply. Editor's decision is that



FOSTER'S GOLD MEDAL DAY P23 JACK'S LADS IN TITLE SHOWDOWN P22



Shearer: 'I'm staying at Newcastle'

firmed his future with Newcastle United after talks with his By ALAN NIXON manager, Ruud Gullit.

Aston Villa had been linked with a move for the England captain after Gullit said he would be prepared to leave him out of the side if it suited either the club or the player. The Independent Newcastle United Supporters' Associa- urday but I have the feeling peotion pleaded for Shearer to ple were thinking on behalf of make it clear he was staying at me or something like that." St James' Park

"If I comment on speculation every time it is written, I would be in the press all the time and 1 would rather concentrate on preparing for my football," Shearer said. "However, because the fans have specifically asked, I can say that I've spoken with the chairman [Freddy Shepherdl and the manager and they have told me that they see me as an important part of Newcastle's future.

"The manager feels that my strength is scoring goals but he realises that I am the type of striker who needs service. I have no doubt that the manager came here to win things, just as I did."

Gullit was delighted by

Shearer's comments, but as far as the Dutchman was concerned the matter had been dealt with at the weekend when

he publicly backed the striker. Gullit said: "It was aiready at an end when I said it last Sat-

He added: "He was happy before the [Southampton] game and his attitude could be seen out on the pitch. So that didn't change even when there was certain speculation."

Gullit said he believed tonight's European Cup-Winners' Cup first round, first leg against Partizan Belgrade was less important than the club's league position. "I will give more priority to the Premier League because there are still going to be some changes," he said. Gullit will still be without

David Batty, his England international midfielder, who played only his first game since the World Cup in a midweek friendly against York. John Spencer, Howard

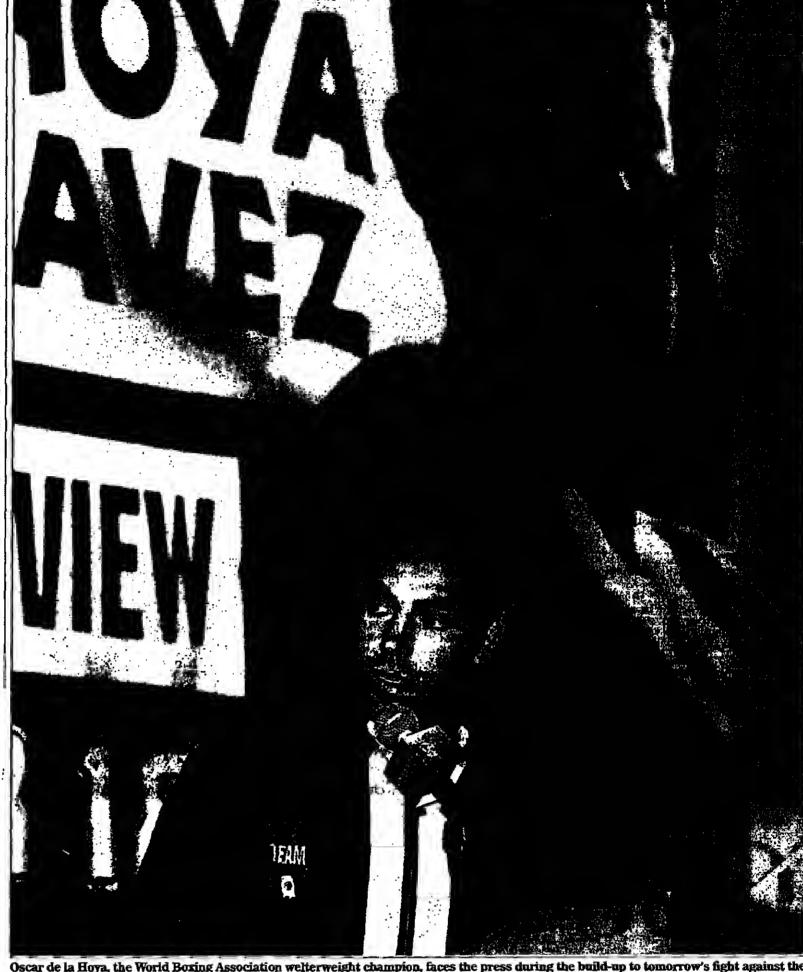
leave Everton because he feels he was insulted by the chairman, Peter Johnson. The Scottish striker is furious at Johnson's statements about him and other signings in a controversial club EGM speech.

Spencer led the protests to the manager, Walter Smith, after an angry players' meeting before the Huddersfield match on Tuesday. The former Queen's Park Rangers striker is unhappy about playing for Johnson's club and was left off the bench for the match.

At the EGM, Johnson said: "Just before Howard left be paid out £1.6m on John Spencer. Doesn't that say it all?"

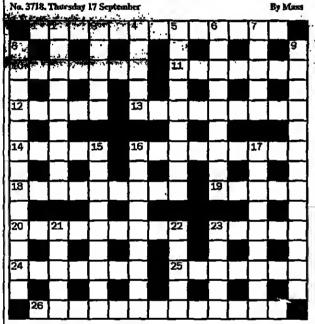
Other Kendall signings are also upset and want to know about their futures. However, Gareth Farrelly and Carl Tiler are already available for sale. Sheffield United's chairman.

Mike McDonald, is considering a possible takeover that could see him leave the Bramall Lane chib. McDonald is looking at offers from three consortiums after rejecting a bid from a director, Kevin McCabe. More football, pages



Oscar de la Hoya, the World Boxing Association welterweight champion, faces the press during the build-up to tomorrow's fight against the challenger, Julio Cesar Chavez, in Las Vegas

THE THURSDAY CROSSWORD



1 A boundary characteristic of the Oval (13) 10 A Drunk reeling a bit?

11 Captain's love for Northern fishy food (7) 25 Limits drink consumed 9 In line? (7-6) 12 Suggested action: half by bellicose figure (7) 15 Musicians w

million should be returned (5) 13 Service satisfied, in-

cluding a garnish (9) 14 Lectured about Liberal issue (5) 16 It's the custom for

right back to face a wing, they say (9) 18 Lack of interest in a

European firm (9) 19 Strains whole back on short slippy surface (5) 5

ing (9)

23 Pound edible seeds (5) 24 Instruments rendering 8 one note after another imbued with swing (7)

by bellicose figure (7) 26 Creature with glands, eg, oddly mutating (5-4-4)

DOWN 2 One short of nap, at

Got along quietly in school (5) Figure little girl should

get over revolting out-burst? (5) Show people around harbour (9)

A basket, say? (9) Plant bay round lake

Stops turn aches with treatment - or these

15 Musicians with a Prom engagement, perhaps

16 Routine work study male's introduced (9) 17 Cutting off, snubbing one, is offensive (9)

21 Chappie's leading academic a dance (5)

22 Beast's tick-infested burrow (5) 23 Risk in poker initially

raising the money (5)

Chavez vows to be 'warrior'

JULIO CESAR Chavez is confident that his rematch with Oscar De La Hoya can go only one way. "This time you're going to see the warrior Chavez," he said yesterday. "I'm going to break up Oscar with punches."

Two years after he was soundly beaten by De La Hoya, Chavez gets another shot at the welterweight champion in Las Vegas tomorrow in what, at the age of 36, is likely to be his

last major fight.

He hasn't done much to earn a rematch, except to irritate De La Hoya to the point where he wants to fight him again. But Chavez is still confident despite the beating and the ravages of more than 100

fights over an 18-year career. Chavez and De La Hoya will

BY TIM DAHLBERG

spect when they meet in the scheduled 12-round bout for De La Hoya's WBC welterweight title. "If it was up to me, this one wouldn't even be in the record books," De La Hoya said. "I'm fighting for the respect he didn't show me the first time. That's how personal this one is. A fighter like him will never admit he lost. The only way for me to get him to admit defeat is a devastating knockout."

In their first fight, De La Hoya sliced open Chavez's face, then beat him to a pulp until the fight was stopped in the fourth round. Chavez claimed afterwards that he sustained a cut both be fighting for some re- over his eye while playing with

lost if the cut had not reopened. Paul Ingle is set to become

the latest British boxer to attempt to capture the hearts of American fight fans, Following Naseem Hamed's Madison Square Garden debut last December, Joe Calzaghe is due to make his US bow before the end of the year. And now Frank Maloney,

Ingle's promoter, has two December dates in mind for Ingle's move across the Atlantic - as part of a prospective hill headed by Lennox Lewis. Ingle must first be success-

ful in his challenge for Billy Hardy's European featherweight title at the Barbican Centre, York, on 26 September.

his young son the week before Ingle, but he remains cautious and that he would have never about unveiling them as he sees Hardy as a big enough challenge not to take things for granted.

"We were making big plans for Patrick Mullings before his fight in Scarborough in August, and he lost," Maloney said. "The one thing I don't do is dismiss Billy Hardy. He's been

in the lion's den a number of times and people keep writing him off, but he comes back." Hardy revels in his underdog

role. "Td love to be written off but it never happens," he said. "I'm sure there is a lucrative deal out there for me as well. All this talk has made me more determined. It's going to be a hard fight and whoever forsakes all the pain and digs the deepest Maloney has big plans for will come out ahead."

The superb York bill also in-cludes the British bantamweight clash between Drew Docherty and Paul Lloyd, plus Crawford Ashley's European light-heavyweight title bout with French-based Joe Silu-

Another barrier in the way of Ingle's appearance on a Lennox Lewis undercard is Zelkjo Mavriovic. Lewis defends his WBC heavyweight title against the Croat in Connecticut on the same night.

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Part of Manhage

Maloney warned: "He [Mavriovic] is a much better fighter than Shannon Briggs (Lewis's last opponent) and he very underestimated

"Lennox was distracted last time, but he's been superb in training and he will never fight like that again."

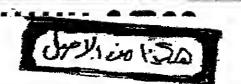
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THURSDAYREVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



God's own spin doctor

f you came across Nicky Gumbel in his wouldn't suspect that he was in any way out of the ordinary.

Yet this is a man who numbers his admirers in hundreds of thousands. If they're to be believed, he's one of the most extraordinary men of his age - a latter-day John Wesley, at the very least. He's certainly extraordinary in his ambition: he's aiming to do for the Church of England what Peter Mandelson did for the Labour Party-drag it into the modern world and, through sheer force of presentational skill. restore it to its former power and glory. More extraordinary still, he's showing signs of success.

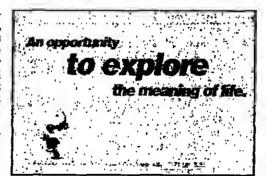
You've probably seen some of the signs: a £1m advertising campaign, unleashed this week, drawing our attention to something called the Alpha Programme. If that doesn't mean much to you, don't worry: by the end of this week, around one million households should have received invitations to go on the Alpha Course, a 15-session, 10-week introduction to the basics of Christianity. Ultimately, it is planned that everyone in Britain should be invited. Already, the number of people who have done the course is thought to have passed 1.5 million, more than half of them in Britain. In a country where the average Sunday sees scarcely one million people attend Church of England services, that's a significant figure. Six thousand of Britain's 24,000-odd Christian churches (of all denominations) are active participants in the Alpha programme; 4,000 are involved in tand are innancially supporting, the current campaign; and the Archbishop of Canterbury has "wholeheartedly" commended it. None of which may be enough to turn Britain back into a Christian nation, but it's not a bad start.

The man behind this revolution, you might think, must be a spiritual tiger, a roaring prophet in the cast of Ian Paisley. Yet Gumbel, as befits a man of God in the New Labour age, is an altogether svelter creature, as smooth-edged as a breakfast television presenter. His background is inoffensive, to the point of blandness. The son of two atheist lawyers, he grew up in the parish of Holy Trinity Brompton - Britain's richest parish church, and, in the religious sense, one of its most charismatic. He has spent most of his life in the area, one of his longest sojourns beyond it being his time at Eton,

where his hobbies included trying to persuade Chrisnative Knightsbridge, you'd hardly no-tice him. He's a neatly dressed, nicely groomed, politely spoken 43-year-old, good-looking in a boyish way but oth-erwise an unremarkable product of the upper-class mould. You certainly where is hoodes include trying to persuate Chris-tian pupils that their faith was absurd. At Cambridge, he read economics and law, had five close friends called Nicky, and was drawn to Christianity for the first time in a fairly undramatic way ("Some of my friends were getting interested, and I just started upper-class mould. You certainly down"). He then returned to Knightsbridge, spent six years as a barrister, married - he now has three teenage children - and became an increasingly active member of the congregation at Holy Trinity Brompton. "I don't think," he says politely, "that there can be many people out there who could tell you that I did awful things in my youth."

In 1983, partly as a result of an encounter with an American evangelist who told him that he had "a gift for telling people about Jesus', he gave up his career at the Bar to train for the priesthood -"to the horror of my parents". His first job after his ordination, in 1986, was as curate of Holy Trinity Brompton, which by this time was acquiring a national reputation for its rather un-British approach to evangelism. Some eight years earlier, one of Gumbel's predecessors, Charles Marnham, had developed a series of talks designed to bolster the faith of existing church-goers - the Alpha programme. These talks were given in conjunction with informal meals and small discussion groups, with the option of a weekend away at the end of the programme; those who went through the course might in due course help to administer it themselves. By 1990, a few hundred committed Christians had tried

Alpha. Then Gumbel was put in charge. Gumbel realised that the real potential of such a programme was as a way of recruiting non-churchgoers, and he re-thought, re-wrote and re-packaged it with this in mind. Everything was made more "non-church-goer-friendly" and "non-threatening"; jargon was replaced by jokes, piety by human warmth; reactions to the talks were monitored by estionnaires and modified accordingly (shades of the focus group); and public interest in the course "simply exploded". Churches all over Britain – and, eventually, the world – began to ask for details, and, in due course, the revised material was committed to books, audiotapes and videos, written by and starring Gumbel, with lots of "study guides" and "manuais" to back them up. Today, Nicky Gumbel governs the Alpha empire from an office block adjoining Holy Trinity Brompton, employing around 100 people in an operation that spends nearly £750,000 a year, which comes out of Holy Trinity Brompton's astonishing annual income from



BY RICHARD ASKWITH

This week, the Alpha Programme began its big-budget rebrand of a world-famous but sadly diminished product. Its name? Christianity. And behind the relaunch? Nicky Gumbel, the Church of England's answer to Peter Mandelson

donations and investments of £2.3m - on materials alone. (The cost of actually running the programmes is usually met by voluntary donations from participants.) Gumbel also puts on up to 50 conferences a year around the world for churches that want to learn how to use the Alpha programme.

According to Sandy Millar, vicar of Holy Trinity Brompton (and another Old Etonian ex-barrister). Gumbel's Alpha has provided overworked, uninspired vicars with an alternative to their usual response to non-believers who express curiosity about Christianity: "which is simply to say come along on Sunday – often with disastrous results." A pre-prepared programme of tried and tested talks on fundamental matters of faith ensures that thousands of churches remain smoothly on message, while modern media and marketing methods en-sure that the programme can be disseminated with breathtaking efficiency. (Check out the countless Alpha websites on the Internet.) Gumbel may not get time to perform more than the occasional wedding or funeral in his capacity as curate, yet he's running an ideological machine of stunning power. In a sense, he's God's minister without portfolio.

A non-smoking, near-teetotal keep-fit enthusiast who spends most of his waking hours working - "although I don't really think of it as work" - Gumbel is tall and dark, performs well on video, and seems to be adored by many female Alpha enthusiasts. But he owes his impact less to any unique vision or cast. of character than to the fact that, like Mandelson, he has faced up to and focused on problems that needed solving - most notably the fact that non-believers tend to see the church as boring and irrelevant - and worked on them with unrelenting energy and thoroughness. "Nicky's legal background is very helpful," says Miliar, "in enal ling him to isolate the key issues and to attempt to deal with them in a way that people can understand." It may be no accident that one of Gumbel's most prominent colleagues who has just taken over Alpha's New York office is Alistair Hanna, a former director of McKinsey's, the management consultants. Nor are the comparisons with Mandelson entirely fanciful. "I think," says Gumbel, "that one should try and learn as much as possible from areas of life outside the church, I would look at any political party and say: 'what can we learn from what they're doing?"

Yet it would be mean to push the similarities with the Prince of Darkness too far, if only because the Devil is, in a real sense, one of Gumbel's bêtes noires. "There are very good reasons to believe in his the bestselling book based on his Alpha talks. "Arry kind of theology which ignores the existence of a personal devil has a great deal to explain." He takes an equally fundamentalist line in other areas. "Does God Still Heal?" is the title of one of the Alpha talks; the answer is a literal and unambiguous yes. Alpha thoroughly disapproves of divorce, abortion, homosexuality and sex outside marriage. As for the direct workings of the Holy Spirit: "The gift of tongues has

brought great blessing to many people."

This is the controversial side of Alpha, In 1994, Gumbel was associated with the arrival in Britain, via Holy Trinity Brompton, the phenomenon widely known as the Toronto Blessing (although Gumbel prefers to call it "The present movement of the Spirit that began at Toronto Airport Vineyard church in January 1994"). The "blessing" involves mass outbreaks of speaking in tongues, sometimes in conjunction with fainting and being "slain in the spirit". For enthusiasts, it can easily become the most important aspect of their faith. Critics of the Alpha programme have claimed that subscribing to Alpha means buying into the whole charismatic Toronto package. In fact, direct references to the phenomenon have now been removed from Alpha (most of whose material was written before 1994). But in practice, there's often a fair bit of speaking with tongues at the programme's climactic weekend session.

What is beyond doubt is that Gumbel, Holy Trinity Brompton and Alpha all stand for a charismatic version of Christianity that would go down in many Anglican churches like guacamole at a Rotherham working men's club. There may be little scriptural or theological justification for the Anglican church's traditionally half-hearted approach to matters of literal and supernatural belief. None the less, that's how handreds of thousands of old-lashioned Auglicans like it. "The Church is like... a feast and a celebration," says Gumbel in one Alpha talk, "and at a party everyone has a good time. There's hin, there's laughter... Paul says, 'don't get drunk with wine, be filled with the Spirit. Come to a party where you can get drunk on God'... I was at a party like that last night... It was a party thrown by the Holy Spirit. It was a fun place to be." You can just feel the Church Fete Committee wincing.

But Gumbel seems set to have the last laugh. For much of the 1990s, the Church of England has been losing members at a rate of 1,000 a week. If he has the secret of putting bums back on pews - as his detractors most certainly have not - then tomorrow's C of E may well belong to him. This week's existence," he says of Satan in Questions of Life, campaign could be a flavour of the church to come.

Leaders and comment.

Arts

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27 EDUCATION

Ban on Viagra

Sir: I find it difficult to understand on what basis Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, bas banned the use of Viagra on the NHS. Many treatments (probably the majority) within the Health Service are not life-saving or for serious illness but instead are for the improvement of the patient's quality of life. Many of these treatments, like Viagra, are not

If the NHS and Department of Health have decided to limit effective and available treatments, presumably on financial grounds, then this issue should be the subject of debate within Parliament, the medical profession and the public at large. I believe this to be the first time in the history of the NHS that a Health Secretary has acted in such a totalitarian manner.

This issue has left the medical profession, specialists and GPs alike, in an untenable position. Never before bave deserving patients been asked to have an NHS consultation but then been told that for the best treatment in their case they will have to pay per tablet. The belief that doctors may prescribe Viagra as a recreational drug is totally ridiculous. Do we write prescriptions for beroin just because the patient asks for it?

The Government saw this issue coming but chose to ignore it. It is the medical profession and patients that will suffer from their inept and tardy attitude. RICHARD PEARCY FRCS

Sir. Since alcohol ingestion is the biggest single reason for impotence and since it is a recreational drug, why not sell Viagra over the counter in public bars as a recreational antidote. HUGH E C GORMLIE Barrhead, Strathclyde

Sir: Impotence is grounds for divorce. The cost of divorce to the Exchequer greatly exceeds the possible cost of Viagra. **EUGEN HOCKENJOS** London N1

Defending jobs

Sir: Donald Macintyre writes of "Roger Lyons' tendency to blame British interest rates for every factory closure in the North-east" (Comment, 15 September).

I am on record as accepting the debilitating affects of the Asian meltdown and the Russian crisis on British manufacturing industry. Of course it is true that an industry that relies so heavily on exports will be affected by world crises.

However a reduction of interest ates will help investment, profits and exports. It is still the role of government to belp the creators of wealth, even in a global economy, by controlling those economic levers it has access to.

I congratulate the Monetary Policy Committee and the Government on hitting their inflation target and bope that action is now taken to make it as easy as possible to compete in the global market by cutting interest. rates. It may not solve the Asian crisis but it may help our manufacturing industry survive it. ROGERLYONS General Secretary London EC1

Coronary puzzle

Sir: Jeremy Laurance interprets the World Health Organisation Monica study as showing tobacco and cholesterol to be "irrelevant" as risk factors for coronary beart disease ("Doctor, doctor-can I have a fag and a chip butty now?". 15 September). He then takes the British Heart Foundation to task for continuing to believe that they are indeed important and modifiable risk factors.

Every study that has observed the health of individuals over many years has confirmed the importance of cigarette smoking, blood pressure and blood

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



safely burn the fossil fuels we have

If Sir Richard wishes to allay

fears be should acknowledge the

those who question the bad

real dilemmas, not pretend that all

applications of science bave "a lack

of real understanding" or see all

"scientific advances as heralding

increased knowledge about genetic

acceptance. "Real understanding"

will not necessarily remove public

concerns, because members of the

public frequently bring different

Scientific Political Adviser

After the Fringe

Sir. There is no evidence that

audiences for the Edinburgh

Fringe Festival have "dwindled"

increase of 17 per cent) and the

Gilded Balloon are up by 25 per

cent. Together we sell more than a

considerably more than either the

Tattoo or the International Festival.

Over two thirds of the Fringe

aged between 15 and 35 and a good

many of them need to be home by

the beginning of September. When

always a gloomy time. Of course it

I'm sorry that some people did

numbers are a bit like my stomach.

the last week is in September it is

is better if all six August festivals

in Edinburgh run concurrently.

less well this year, but there may

If I breathe in I look thinner, but

CHRISTOPHER RICHARDSON

Pleasance Theatre Festival Ltd

sadly it is merely a temporary

redistribution of bulk.

Director

London, N7

be other reasons for that. The

audience (and performers) are

quarter of all Fringe tickets and

values to bear.

Dr IAN E TAYLOR

Стестреасе UK

London N1

Armageddon". In a recent poll

across the whole of Europe,

engineering led to no greater

already.

cholesterol in the development of coronary beart disease. In addition, during the last five years, several studies have clearly demonstrated that lowering blood cholesterol levels among high-risk patients reduces both death and disability from coronary heart disease.

In studies like Monica, which look at different populations through a series of snapshots over time, other factors may be at work. Jeremy Laurance raises the issue of low-grade infection as a cause of coronary heart disease. There is currently much interest in this topic but its role as a risk factor remains unproven. As he acknowledges, we believe it possible that increasing affluence in society may explain some of the decline in death from coronary disease. Whether that is due to the availability of new and expensive treatment or the ability to afford a bealthier diet and more physical recreation we do not know. There is however no doubt that death from coronary artery disease is falling most rapidly in the

We do not believe that the cause of coronary heart disease is cut and dried and have never suggested that it is completely avoidable. There is however much we can do as individuals to reduce risk and the British Heart Foundation will continue to promote this message Professor BL PENTECOST Medical Director **British Heart Foundation**

wealthier sections of society.

Sir: Jeremy Laurance is delighted at expert puzzlement over results of the World Health Organisation Monica Project, but Monica researchers would not agree that "there was no link - no link at all" between trends in standard risk factors of smoking, blood pressure and cholesterol and trends in beart disease, and that the results are

It is true that there is not a strong relationship, but most trends are down. This creates a statistical problem in estimating how great or how small is the contribution of known risk factors, and therefore how much room is left for other animals in the jungle.

At Monica's launch standard risk factors were known to predict individual risk within populations, but the absolute levels of risk varied between populations more than known risk factors could explain. The project asked how well trends over time in these population levels were explained by changes in standard risk factors. The answer - "not very well" - was more negative than many expected, but had we known the answer beforehand we would not have mounted the project!

Health promotion is about what is known. Many diseases of unknown causation have been controlled by entirely empirical means (eg Jenner and vaccination

Sir. Your article on Xfm ("X

marks the spot where music

died", 15 September) blamed

the station's owners, Capital

Radio, for ruining its output.

Capital are a public

company and thus have a

shareholders to boost their

profits by maximising Xfm's

Authority to ensure that Xfm

keeps to its promise to play music by artists "outside the

mainstream." The authority

has failed dismally to perform

its role. It is the authority that

disgrantled listeners should

Sir- Carolyn Badham and

Gerry Hanson (letters, 9, 12

ARTHUR VAN HOOGSTRATEN

responsibility of the Radio

responsibility to their

listenership. It is the

London N5

against smallpox). Prevention is not all-or-nothing. It is the major risk factors which determine whether a chronic disease is common or rare and whether it occurs in young or only elderly people.

Research is about what is not known. Only a fool would use the latter as an argument for complete inaction, for disregarding or going against reasonable advice. Jeremy Laurance's reaction is akin to someone who uses the news that a good driver has been killed in a car accident to justify and encourage bad driving. The Monica findings are certainly a challenge for researchers as to what exactly is going on at a population level but do not change the advice to individuals as to how they might modify their personal risk. HUGHTUNSTALL-PEDOE Rapporteur WHO Monica Project Cardiovascular Epidemiology

University of Dundee

September/ should stop

worrying about Christmas

decorations being on sale in

September, and Christmas

dinners being advertised in

Sainsbury's, which is much

July. Instead they should visit

more forward-looking. Seven

Sir: Naturally we are delighted

that Susan Tritton's friends in

superior to the competition

(letter, 15 September). They

will be pleased to know that BBC World, the BBC's 24-hour

months before Good Friday,

this Supermarket chain is

selling hot cross buns.

MICHAEL GREGORY

Thailand find the BBC

Buckinghamshire

IN BRIEF

The uses of science

Sir: Sir Richard Sykes ("Science must allay the public's fears", Podium, 14 September) displays exactly the limited perspective on scientific development which creates public fear. In misrepresenting the debate as one between those who are for and against science, he misses the point, which is whether science is

put to good use or bad. Greenpeace strongly supports the application of science and new technology to amend environmental problems, such as our initiatives to create markets for ozone- and climate-friendly fridges, PVC-free credit cards and renewable energy sources. We oppose misapplication of science which leads to uncontrollable

environmental risks such as those posed by nuclear power and release of genetically engineered investment in fossil fuel extraction

organisms, or continued technologies when we cannot

(report, 8 September). The Pleasance "notched up a record audience" of 150,000 this year (an

international news and information television channel, is currently available in Thailand to over 115,000 bomes via the Pan Am Sat II satellite JANIE TRONSIDE WOOD Director of Communications BBC Worldwide London W12

Sir: Keiko the killer whale is airlifted to his new bome in Iceland as the Government announces its competition for tenants on problem estates to secure extra funding. Keiko is removed from his cramped. unpleasant conditions in order to avoid having to do cheap tricks, whilst the inhabitants of inner-city London, Liverpool and Manchester have to jump through hoops to escape theirs. JOHN GALE

Art, or just pots?

Sir: Henry Rothschild has alerted us to the risk that Janet Leach's spop the ranti unique and important collection of Bernard Leach's work and documents are in danger of being lost to the nation (letter, 15 September).

If Leach had worked in any other medium than ceramics the work of this major 20th-century artist would be in the Tate Gallery. As it is, the Tate continues to maintain that ceramics are craft and not art. In the Tate St Ives, work by Leach is on show, but it is work loaned from the Wingfield Digby Collection, because the Tate does not choose to own ceramics.

At the same time that your columnist David Lister is pressurising Nicholas Serota, the Tate's director, to define modern art (Comment, 16 September), you might also ask him to say why Leach is not an artist. A wider definition might mean that the Janet Leach collection could be bought by the Tate. But Serota needs to think quickly. The Rev TIM RUSS St Dennis, Cormoall

Dangers on the Net

Sir: Mark Pawelek Getter, 11 September) wrongly describes me as a "censor". I am not.

The Internet Watch Foundation does play a part in getting material which is plainly illegal removed from UK servers, but surely Mr Pawelek bas no objection to that? I do also favour giving parents, teachers, employers and children themselves, the knowledge and the power to determine what sort of material might come into their bome, office or classroom. That does not make me "procensorship". It makes me "prochoice". You will never stop people publishing whatever they like on the Internet, but you ought to be able to intervene to protect yourself and your loved ones from unwanted intrusions. The sorts of tools we have at our disposal now to do this are woefully inadequate and IWF is working to improve

Mr Pawelek tells us there are only a "few idiots" who abuse the system. I wonder if Mr Pawelek would feel quite so charitable towards the "idiots" if one of his children became the victim of a paedophile whom he or she first met on the Internet. JOHN CARR London N19

A night in jail

Sir: Governor O'Sullivan's initiative ("A night in Brixton jail - yours for £50", 14th September) is laudable, and his project will doubtless appeal to the curiosity of the lawabiding and raise much-needed funds for the Macmillan cause. Two matters are however of pressing

Why, if refurbishment of the A wing cells is complete, are they not to be used straight away for prisoner occupation? Over the summer, pressure on cell accommodation in London has been so great that prisoners are being moved outside the Metropolitan area almost every day. The 200 spaces in A wing are sorely needed to relieve pressure on the other London prisons.

Secondly, this "unique event" will doubtless require a substantial project to restore the security status of the cells after their overnight paying guests have left who knows what parting gifts might otherwise have been left for the official occupants? How are the extra staff, sniffer dogs, cleaning and security searches to be financed?

This public relations exercise should not be allowed to divert attention from the very real problems of prisoner numbers and their welfare, and they should come before even the most worthy of charities JENIFER BALL

Chairman, Greater London Lay Observers' Panel

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Fjord squad holds Villa at home, though they run and run

WELL, IT'S been an action-packed, rip-roaring couple of nights in European Football! (writes our football correspondent, Rene McGrit). British clubs were in non-stop action on both evenings in what turned out to be an action-packed, rip-roaring couple of nights, no, I've used that one already, in what turned out to be a dramatic topsy-turvy couple of nights of star-studded, breathtaking European football!

And Britain can walk tall today after their first encounters with the might of the mainland, Majestic M1 Wanderers, the pride of the Midlands, were at their magisterial best in the San Serif stadium in Italy. playing their first leg against AC/DC Milan in the Champion of Champions Pay To View Cup, and coming away with a very creditable 2-1 loss.

"This may not have been the result we came for," said manager Ally Barber last night, "but it's certainly the result we are going away with, and you can't say fairer than that. We scored an away goal on the night. They didn't. That makes things very difficult for them in the second leg. It makes things very difficult for us too. More difficult for us, probably. A lot more. Well, that's football. But take nothing away from our lads. They ran and ran and ran and ran, and occasionally kicked the ball too. You can't say more than that. They were

be £400, please." Meanwhile, on bome ground, Villa Park were doing even better at their London base, where they entertained the crack Norwegian

magnificent. Take nothing away

from these lads. I won't. That will

team FC Anorak to a cliffhanger 3-3 draw.

"What can you say? Both teams scored three times," said haggard manager Bert Umber after the nail-biting last few minutes in which both sides hit the upright, though not with the ball. "Three goals on either side. Terrific entertainment. Piss-poor football, unfortunately I'm choked Still, I'll say this for the lads. They ran and ran and ran and ran. Unfortunately, so did the other side, I'm afraid we've got it all to do in the second leg. Terrific entertainment, though. What more can you say? I can't £300, please."

Tynegate Rovers, the pride of the North-east, travelled to Denmark to take on Hornby Dublo, the Danish champions. Unfortunately, they weren't meant to. They were meant



KINGTON Three goals on

either side. Terrific entertainment. Piss-poor football, unfortunately'

to travel to Turkey to take on Sporting Paklava, the Turkish cup runners-up, which means they forfeit the first leg on away penalties and go into the second leg 5-0 down "It was a nightmare night for us,"

said manager Bill Gateshead, on a mobile phone in Copenhagen airport. "Our lads ran and ran and ran and ran, but we still couldn't get the last flight to Turkey. It's always disappointing to lose the first leg 5-0, especially when you haven't played, but I'm counting our blessings - we haven't sustained any injuries, except for young Gary Romain who pulled a muscle trying to control a inggage trolley. Still, let's look on the bright side - there's always a chance that Sporting Paklava will turn up at the wrong place like we did! £250, please - and could you bring it out here in cash? As soon as possible? We're running out of the readies..."

Blarney Rovers, the little-fancied

Irish team, did their reputation no harm at all in the Cup-Losers Cup when they took on the might of Portugal's Sporting Faro and lost by the

odd goal in seven, that is, 6-1. "Lots of people were saying before the match that they were going to be all over us and everyone in the team was going to score against us," says manager Al Garvey. "Well, I think we've proved the walling willies wrong. There were at least five of the Portuguese lads who didn't score, and one or two of them who never looked like doing so. Great stuff by us. I think we can hold our beads high and hold our hands out for £50."

Ruddlestone City completed a great night for British football when they met Ibiza Rovers in the Med Cup and only conceded

"We were unlucky to meet them in peak form," said manager Frank Fearless afterwards, "They had signed several German star bolidaymakers in the close season and we weren't expecting it that. Still, they've got weaknesses too, and I think we can pull it all back in the second leg. What? There isn't a second leg? That was it? We've been knocked out of the competition? Well, Blimey O'Riley. What can I say? I'm choked. Still, that's football for you. Make it £25 and a drink."

Late results Cup Losers Cup Racing Special

Sporting Gazebo 0 Real Meccano 0 FC Fastnet 0

European Fruit Cup Sporting Nancy 0 Gay Vienna 0 Queen of the North 0 Disco Hanover

*THE INDEPENDENT

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Stop the ranting and remember your role, brothers

WHAT ARE the trade unions for? This is a question that too few of us have given much thought to in recent times. Most of us are content to answer the question by beading together words such as "irrelevant", "outdated" and, of course, "dinosaur" (itself now a rather dated expression). More to the point, too many trade unionists, sadly, have been happy to dismiss such fundamental questions about their role as just so much navel gazing. Neither of these responses are adequate. It is not too strong to say that independent trade unions play a vital part in a free society. If they are to thrive it is because they have found a convincing way to say to potential members: "This is what we are for, this is what we can do for you."

We have witnessed at Blackpool this week both a glimpse of a modern brand of popular trade unionism and some signals that thoughtfulness is still at a premium in the Labour movement. The brothers must have enjoyed grabbing the headlines for a change. But the messages that emanated from Blackpool were not uniformly attractive.

Trade unionists were entitled, for example, to use their public platform to press for changes in legislation and social and economic policy. They put their case for an increase in the minimum wage passionately. They argued for a cut in interest rates. Some of them regretted the passing of interest rate policy to the Bank of England. Yet they listened to the Governor of the Bank of England, who is, after all, a hard-working public servant (though not yet a Unison member), with respect. This is in marked contrast to, say, the heckling that Denis Healey, a Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer, famously received when he begged the unions to help the then Government during the IMF crisis in 1976.

The case for a shift in policy today is made without menaces and without the trappings and contradictions and pretensions of corporatism. The unions are just another lobby group and their success depends on the effectiveness of the case they put. It is not a rude or demeaning position for the unions to be in that places them, in this respect, on a par with the AA or the RSPCA or Greenpeace (all organisations with sizeable memberships). It is rather to recognise their new role. To employ a new union cliché, the unions are right to settle for fairness and not favours from the Government. Much of this change in the unions' attitudes is down to the quiet but effective leadership of John Monks.

This, though was in contrast to the intemperate



attacks on "fat cats" (or "greedy bastards") made by John Edmonds. Such name calling was not a useful contribution to public policy, crowd-pleasing and headlinegrabbing though it may have been. It did suggest to people outside the Conference hall that trade unions are still about envy, vindictiveness, even greed - but on their own part. But the railing at the hate-figures will not bring GMB members any more rights, any more pay, any more security. Mr Edmonds and his colleagues would do better to concentrate on the real enemies that their members - and potential members - encounter daily in the workplace. Too few trade unions provide tangible benefits for their individual members to tackle problems such as "bastard" bosses. Above all else, unions should be able to say to potential recruits: "we may or may not gain recognition in your workplace. Maybe people don't want collective bargaining. But even if we don't get recognition and you are on an individual contract, we will give you advice if you find yourself being bullied or discriminated against". Unions such as the AEU are showing how they can help their members find suitable pensions. Such practical measures as these represent a far more convincing answer to the question of what the unions are for.

Reading the runes in the information age

YESTERDAY'S LAUNCH of the National Year of Reading must be welcomed. Giving designated parts of the school day over to reading skills is a dose of longoverdue common sense. Any public relations efforts to promote reading among young men are also a good idea, as boys continue to lag behind girls in their studies. Tory objections to "Big Brother tactics" are frankly ludicrous. The Government is not forcing broadcasters to include clumsy "pro-reading" messages in their plots, simply encouraging them to act responsibly.

Still, the Government should not exaggerate the overall decline of the book. Doom-sayers who lament Britain's supposed backwardness should consider that it has been many years since reading has been as popular as it is today. The new book "supermarkets" have been inspired by the American example of bookshops which feel like coffee lounges; their success is a testament to reading's continuing appeal, even in this emerging computer age.

That appeal will be stimulated, rather than undermined, by new technology: the public's hunger for information, once awakened, is insatiable. Interactive books for personal computers are only the beginning. Handheld terminals granting access to the Internet will soon transform our view of personal entertainment. All the evidence is that such new media can revive old industries. Video was supposed to supersede cinema: instead, it has given the big screen a new lease of economic life. Only this week, an Australian cinema chain has announced 150 new cinemas in the UK.

Similarly, Americans, the most technologically advanced people in the world, still visit libraries more than any other free public service. The feel and smell of books, the romance of libraries and the thrill of turning the page to new discoveries - all of this will keep book sales healthy, even booming, well into the next century. Society cannot rest easy on literacy, but at least we should not despair.

Lambs to the altar

SCIENTIFIC TRIALS now show that goats and sheep will try to mate with females from the species which "brought them up". If goats are placed with female sheep from birth, they will prefer sheep as partners, and vice versa. We should bardly be surprised. These experiments simply prove correct the cry of many wives, partners and girlfriends down the ages: men, sadly, really do want to marry their mothers.

There's no quick fix to the world's economic crisis – but don't panic

action to support the world economy should growth falter. President Clinton has described the world economy as facing its most serious challenge for 50 years and has set out six measures to combat this. George Soros has lost his investors \$2bn and is again calling for radical reform of the world monetary system.

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Meanwhile the rest of us are left to wonder quite why the global panic indicators have clicked up quite so suddenly. Nothing has really changed since July, when Wall Street hit its highest level ever. And if it were so easy to restore confidence by having a co-ordinated cut in global interest rates, why don't they just get on and

When you look at the substance of the stuffy language which is wrapped around it, there is not that much that

There are really only two weapons in the armoury. One is multi-purpose, powerful, ready for immediate use: a concerted interest rate cut. But it is also a single-shot, as repeated use would render it ineffective; and it cannot be targeted, so it hits places that do not need to be hit and causes collateral damage. The other weapon is weaker, more complex, slower to assemble and subject to failure: finding the right mix of financial support and policy reforms for each country, company or bank that has got itself into trouble. The first weapon, cuts in rates, can buy a bit of time, but the second weapons are the ones that really matter.

YES, BUT what can they do? The Group of Seven has promised to take facing the most serious economic challenge for 50 years? No, of course we aren't. American presidents under stress are known to ham things up a bit. It was President Nixon who described the Smithsonian Agreement in 1971, which shored up the fixed exchange rate system, as "the greatest monetary agreement in the history of mankind". It lasted about six months.

Nor should we listen too closely to George Soros. He has made a lot of money and has a good nose for markets. He correctly saw that sterling would have to come out of the Exchange Rate Mechanism in 1992, and helped it on the way. But he makes mistakes and has recently completely mis-called investment in Russia He has now lost a lot of money and when people lose money they tend to find what is being proposed, as opposed to it easier to blame the system than blame themselves.

The dangers are, however, quite is likely to be effective. Or at least not considerable, for it looks as though the easily and simply effective. considerable, for it looks as though the world is heading into another downswing comparable to that which followed the first and second oil shocks in 1973/4 and 1979, and the 1988-89 boom. Not every country will, however, be equally affected. They never are, for just as each boom is slightly different, so too is each downswing. In some countries there will be outright recession - there already is in much of east Asia, including Japan, and in Russia. In others, maybe including ourselves, it is possible that there will be merely a sharp slow-down in growth, but with the economy managing to inch forward.

In truth, we don't know. The opinions of the experts are often rubbish. Back in July, when the US market



HAMISH MCRAE

George Soros lost \$2bn and the rest of us wonder why the global panic indicators have clicked up so suddenly

peaked, there were plenty of immensely highly-paid American investment advisers saying that the market was soundly based and was likely to rise further. Clever people get things wrong. What we do know is that a global

downturn of uncertain dimensions seems more likely by the day. Accordingly, as the dangers mount, it is right to work out what firepower we have against recession and to get the weapons ready.

Start with interest rate cuts. Why

not just do it? Three reasons. One: a cut in rates may be right for the world as a whole but wrong for several of the countries that have to do the cutting. If you look at the US or the UK today, the domestic case for a cut remains marginal. Both countries have probably been wrong not to raise rates more over the previous two years. If they had, they might have chipped a bit off lessened the danger of the future

Two: if the cut is not credible, it won't work, so it has to be backed-up by policies of the second type noted above. The cut buys time, which is great. But it only buys time.

Three: you can only do this sort of thing when you are very sure that it is right. Co-ordinated interest rate cuts in 1987, after the stock market crash, actually made the subsequent boom and bust worse.

I still think there probably is a case for cuts in interest rates as part of a wider set of measures. Talk about this has helped shore up markets around the world in the last few days. But what will matter is the long, slow, cold slog of fixing each problem of the world economy in a way that will not be per-

fect, but will be good enough. This means putting in a mixture of loans and policy programmes in comtries that have made a mess of their policies. It means countries that have weak financial systems using taxpayers' money to shore them up. Each decision - do you lend money and on what terms, or do you let whatever it is go bust? - has to be taken on its merits. And some decisions will

inevitably be wrong Patching the system also means trying to find ways of giving more resources to the two organisations that have most experience in fixing global economic problems; the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. Their joint annual meetings start in Washington at the beginning of next month and something ought to be in place by then.

The Fund and the Bank have atthe top of the present boom and so tracted a lot of flak over the last year a global catastrophe either.

for supposedly inappropriate poli-cies. They probably have made mistakes. They remain, nevertheless, the best mechanisms we have to anchor the world economy. My worry is less that they make mistakes, but

rather that they are too small, too weak and too unpersuasive to be able to push much-needed policy changes by sub-optimal governments. Finally, anyone who follows global

economic affairs is going to be blasted by a string of suggestions, position papers and demands for radical change in the world money system. These ideas are always bubbling away, but when things seem fine, no one pays much attention. When they are not, everyone scurries about calling for this, that or the other. It is boring, and the ideas are mostly silly, but

that is what is going to happen.
There are, bowever, some ideas that have real merit. One, floated last week by the French Finance Minister, is to look at the idea of having bands between the major currencies, within which the authorities would try to hold their currencies. If the bands are too rigid, they merely create barriers to be broken and opportunities for people like George Soros to make speculative gains. The only people worse at fixing exchange rates than the markets are politicians. But the foreign exchanges do undoubtedly overshoot and if some way could be found to level the peaks and troughs, it would reduce, a bit, one source of instability

in the world economy. That, however, is for the future. For the present, it would be nice to pretend that there is a quick fix. There is not. Fortunately there is no need for

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"To be honest, I don't know a lot about politics. It's hard to vote, especially when your life's going well and you haven't got a grievance." Louise. pop singer

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Of making books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh." Ecclesiastes, chapter 12, verse 12

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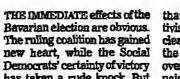
CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE think he would bring to the fed-Gerhard Schröder's attempt to involve himself in the internal affairs of Bavaria have not worked out well for him. He got in evidence in the election in his a bloody nose in the weekend home state of Lower Saxony, regional election, with no trace which was, above all, a of any "Schröder effect". The wind of change wasn't even a SPD candidate for Chancellor. gentle breeze. The Bavarians Since then he insists there's are extremely satisfied with Edmund Stoiber's management of their state because of young? But the real question is his modernness, his efficiency whether Schröder doesn't look and his pragmatism - the very older than is good for him. qualities Mr Schröder likes to Frankfurter Allgemeine

eral government.

Thus far, the famous "Schröder effect" has only been plebiscite on who should be the only one question: Kohl or Schröder? The old or the

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD German press comment after the Bavarian elections



THE IMMEDIATE effects of the that will motivate their ac-Bavarian election are obvious. tivists as well - though it's not clear how that will show up in new heart, while the Social the mood of ordinary voters over the last days of the camhas taken a rude knock. But paign, But the long-term im-

plications of the vote are even THERE ARE two explanations more interesting. Whatever for what happened, and the first happens on 27 September, is not as bad for the SPD as the Edmund Stoiber's personal success means that, like Franz-Josef Strauss before him he can election into a test run for 27 demand a large say in shaping the policy of the centre-right coalition at a federal level. If the coalition retains power, then he will automatically become a possible successor to Kohl. If it is defeated, Stoiber will be well placed to take over full control

of the CSU.

less may have managed to secure the votes of some Bavarians for the federal election. The second explanation is that there is no "Schröder effect", even though a mood for change is allegedly to be felt across the country.

second. First, Schröder may

have failed to turn the Bavarian

September, but he nonethe-

Süddeutsche Zeitung

PANDORA

ALWAYS READY for a scrap, Arthur Scargill threatened to walk out of Eddie George's speech to the TUC conference on Tuesday. However it seems that Scargill did not go into the hall in the first place, making his walkout rather problematic. Pandora's efforts to reach Scargill were thwarted by the answerphone message of the National Union of Mineworkers HQ: it advises callers to write in with their enquiries. The TUC press office in Blackpool explained it would be almost impossible to get a comment from anyone at the NUM because: "They hate the press because you're capitalist [expletive deleted]: we like you because we're class collaborationists." Love. hate, Pandora likes everybody.

YESTERDAY'S DERATE on Europe at the TUC conference was definitely attended by Arthur Scargill. The firebrand leader certainly made his presence felt this time, saying, "As miners we are an internationalist bunch. We shouldn't be trading with Europe, but with Cuba." Has Arthur taken a fancy to Cuban cigars?

CZECH PRESIDENT Vaclav Havel described him as a "living legend" and one of the "co-creators of a new American self-realisation' who "affected even Czech lands with his works". Praise indeed for rocker Lou Reed. At Havel's request, Reed was booked to play a 20-minute set at the White House this week. Reed's former band. The Velvet Underground, were apparently the inspiration to a number of Czech bands of the sixties including Plastic People of the Universe, who were imprisoned for their music and later recorded in secret at Havel's house. Given the problems faced by Bill Clinton, Lou ought to consider dropping his tune Walk on the Wild Side" from the set, or else sing it in Czech.

AT THE Pharmacy launch party for his book By Grant (pictured) was surrounded by happy revellers, including Twiggy and Samantha Fox (who stars with Grant and footballer Alan Shearer in the forthcoming film The Match). Unlike most of the crowd on Tuesday evening, Grant does not drink or smoke, belying the image he forged for himself in Withnail and I. How then does the actor relax? "My vices are sex, shopping and scuba diving, to be done as often as possible. Sometimes at the same time." If that's the case, his current image is pretty far out too.

JAMES KIRKMAN, art dealer to Lucien Freud for 20 years, is to have an exhibition of his own paintings at the Atrium Gallery in London next month. Freud severed relations with Kirkman in 1992 after a dispute over the commission from the sale of a portrait of Lord Rothschild Kirkman, who looked after the affairs of John Piper and Henry Moore amongst others, took up painting five years ago, when he was 58. Currently tutored by Maggi Hambling at Morley College in London, James humbly admits, "I'm not a great genius." Perhaps not, but he has had work exhibited recently at the Royal Academy. "You will have to come along and decide for vourself. If you write anything about me. I can begin my cuttings file." Are you reaching for the scissors.

AS OUR Anti-Rucksack ou the Tube Campaign gears up for a massive autumn offensive, a rather worrying letter reaches us. "Everyone who uses public transport should support your anti-backpack campaign; you are obviously the champion of the passenger," writes a North Loudon reader. The lady in question warns Pandora of another scourge: trolley abuse. Beware the species of shopping trolley that is "large, surrounded by a metal cage and seems to have an unusual number of corners and spikes," used as a battering ram on buses. Our reader pleads; "If I am quoted I would like to be anonymous. I use buses frequently and don't want to be set upon by angry trolleys." What a horrible

What is Britain's favourite tourist city amongst readers of Condé Nast Traveller? Not what you'd expect. Number one choice is Glasgow, almost in a tie for second are Chester and Newcastle. London only just managed the top 10. again?



Loyalty, through thick and thin

WHAT ARE friends for? Different things, depending on whether you are British or American.

This week Tony Blair told critics that he would stay loyal to his friend Bill Clinton. He didn't say "no matter what happens", but it sounded like that. "The Prime Minister doesn't dump people because some report appears on the Internet," snapped his press spokesman.

I was worried when, in February just after the Monica Lewinsky scandal broke, Tony Blair stood in the White House and lauded Clinton's "honesty". Beside him, the statesman from Arkansas nodded and grinned like he'd just wolfed down a double Whopper with fries. In August, I was dismayed by the

endorsement of Clinton's attack on a pharmaceutical factory in Sudan. And I was appalled a few days later when, after confessing to eight montha of dishonesty, Clinton came to Omagh, where his presence seemed an insult to the memory of

Prime Minister's take-it-on-faith

29 innocent martyrs to peace. But I have to admire Tony Blair for standing by his friend after the publication of the scurrilous Starr



PAUL SPIKE

I hope Tony understands that, in America, friends insist their greatest obligation is to themselves

report. It was the right thing to do. You don't desert your friends when

they're under fire. You take friends

for who they are, not who you want them to be. So what are friends for? Tony Blair's friendship has been good for Bill Clinton: good for bolstering his reputation, for giving credence to his pack of lies, for endorsing his flawed character, for seeming to legitimise

his recent act of military aggression

- one that appears more cynical as time goes by.

Bill Clinton's friendship hasn't been all that good for Tony Blair. The efforts Clinton made to bring peace to Northern Ireland would, I suspect, have been made anyway. They did not cost Climton very much, and they satisfied the new generation of Irish-Americans who loathe terrorism and wanted to see the trouhles end on their grandparents' island. Clinton's friendship has brought Blair a raft of criticism. But, as one of my English friends said to me recently, "Friendship in this country implies an ohligation". Which is why becoming someone's friend in Britain is far more difficult

that it is in America. In "friendly" America, perfect strangers beam smiles and coo "nice day" at each other in a pantomime of synthetic intimacy. It's not that Americans necessarily make had friends; but American friendship often does not carry any obligation. Friendship is seen more as an opportunity, a way to get something, another stop on the social network Americans can shed their friends as easily as they replace their trainers,

and sometimes when you go to parties in New York or Washington, it feels as if you are with a group of people who are all out shopping for

new friends. I learned a lot about friendship when I left New York and settled in London. It was not as if I arrived as a complete stranger. I knew several people whom I thought were good friends. These were Londoners who I had first met in places like Spain or Turkey, places where we met on an equal footing as foreigners. Later, whenever I came through London, they welcomed me into their homes, offered me gracious hospitality for days or even weeks.

Everything changed the day I said I was going to settle permanently in this country. A subtle distance suddenly entered the relationship. It wasn't frosty, but it wasn't nearly as warm a reaction as I had expected, had boped for

From being a visiting houseguest, a member of the family, suddenly I was someone they rang to invite to a dinner party six weeks hence. It took me a long time to adapt to this, to put aside my feelings of rejection, to understand that I was heing vetted. The vetting lasted about a year. I knew it was over on that first Christmas morning when, unannounced, my London friends suddenly arrived on my doorstep bearing an armload of gifts, champagne, delicious caviar,

On the other hand, whenever I returned to New York and phoned old friends, I noticed that the first thing they asked was, "Where are you right now?" If I said I was calling from a hotel room, they'd invariably say "Hey let's get together tonight". If I was calling from the airport, the chance that I might need a couch to flop on for a night or two would provoke a very different response. "Hey, this is kind of a difficult week for me. How long are you staying? Maybe we can do lunch."

There is no point in resenting this difference between British and American friendships: that's just the way it is. I applaud Tony Blair for remaining true to his friend Bill I just hope he understands that, in America, even best friends will insist that their greatest obligation is to be true to themselves. Such an unequal friendship makes for a rather special relationship.

Parents, not schools, must teach their children to read

"READING," Francis Bacon declared, "maketh a full man." Fullness is evidently the Government's worry of the week, David Blunkett has announced a "National Reading Campaign". Every school in the country will receive £1,000 with which to galvanise the reading habit among This is New Labour's favourite

tactic - a cheap but, well-aimed "stimulus", which (like a Tomahawk missile) targets its objective so pin-point precisely that improvement is, after impact, selfsustaining. Create a few supermurses or super-teachers as "role models" or throw a few sexy books at school children and reform will follow as surely as day follows night. No need for all that expensive infrastructural investment.

The thinking behind Blunkett's campaign is well-intentioned but confused as to what is understood by "literacy". It goes back to what vestigated, split in our education system: the point where it all starts. Where the home meets kindergarten, that is. Most readers of this and other quality newspapers will have been taught to read by their mothers (or their fathers) before they went to school. Once enrolled in school, most of them will have been taught to write by paid teachers, building on the parental literacy foundation.

Students of the history of the novel are familiar with that peculiar phenomenon in the 18th and 19th centuries - the illiterate female reader. There were large audiences of women for writers like Richardson or Jane Austen who could read fluently, but hardly write at all. Writing was reserved for the male sex as an occupational skill. There were, one is told, women who could read Shakespeare but who would sign the



JOHN SUTHERLAND

Blunkett's campaign is well intentioned but confused as to what is understood by 'literacy'

marriage register with a cross. They had been taught to read by their mothers - it was passed down as a household skill like darning or dumpling making. No need for girls "scriveners" (like scribes before them) were exclusively male trades. You could earn your living by being able to write or even "copy" accurately. There was no demand for readers - except as passive consumers of novels or cookery books. All this changed with two mo-

mentous events: the 1870 universal education act, which gave girls equal educational rights, and the typewriter. The new stenographic machines of the 1890s required a dexterity which girls (trained in needlework by their mothers) had, and hoys singularly didn't. The keyboard was feminine - women at last had a profession (apart from the traditional marriage, seamstressing or prostitution) to call their own. Until quite recently, men didn't like having computers in their private offices. since "typing" was woman's work. Being able to five-finger touch-type

was as unmanly as knowing how to work a dishwasher, or a steam iron.

By the same kind of cultural inertia, women have retained their historical edge as readers. On Wednesday's Radio 4 Today programme, David Blunkett noted the curious phenomenon that girls have less problem with reading than boys who tend to see the activity as degradingly "sissy". Keyboards, on the other hand, have been masculinized in the last decade by computers and, more particularly, computer games. No one ever played Flight Simulator or Kombat on a typewriter. We have, I suspect, a rising generation of little boys with advanced keyboard skills to rival those of the 1890s "typewriter girl", but who can't read worth a damn.

The middle and upper classes still have a great advantage over the under classes (this week's term is "the excluded"): they feel the obligation to teach their kids to read fore sending them off to school The head start is rarely overtaken by lower-class children.

This middle-class pre-school advantage is, however, being sadly eroded by the 1990s epidemic of divorce and single-parenthood. Lone parents, however omnicompetent and well intending, do not have the hundreds of hours necessary to recruit their offspring into the reading

When David Blunkett talks about the necessity of a "culture change" to reinvigorate the reading habit, I suspect that what he means, although he daren't say it (remembering the "Back to Basics" and "Victorian Values" fiascos), is "less divorce" and "bring back the nuclear family, and the house-bound mother". These are deep waters. It's easier to give each school £1,000, spout some uplifting slogans, and hope for the best.



Women traditionally have read more than men

The reading skills of the British reading babit. More reading is happopulation in the 1990s present a pening than at any time in history. strangely mixed picture. As publishers, particularly reprint publishers of "classic" hooks, will tell business has never been better. My local Dillon's, for example, has no fewer than five editions of Oliver Twist, Emma, The Mayor of Casterbridge, and Middlemarch all costing less than £5 (one, the "Wordsworth" edition, costing less than a pound). Each is selling on average 20,000 copies a year.

If you do the sums, Dickens (with his dozen titles) is selling over a million copies a year - infinitely more than he ever sold in his Victorian heyday. There are 700 titles listed in the catalogues of the two market leaders, World's Classics and Penguin Classics. At one point in the early 1990s Gt's cooled off a bit now), sales were expanding at 30 per cent a year. Take this with the fact that over 100,000 new titles are produced annually for the British market (plus half a million "in-print" titles) and what you do not see is a country that has somehow lost the

But who is doing the reading? The

over-forties and, particularly, the over-fifties. All those school teachers who took early retirement, who saved up their "serious reading" for when they had time and a bit of pocket money, which (with the kids off their hands) they now do. This is the generation whose mothers taught them to read, who benefitted from the 1944 Education Act and all the new text hooks, who cut their teeth on text- (not picture-) based comics like the Wizard, Rover and Hotspur. Look at today's kids weaned on The Teletubbies, banging away at interactive computer games, and reading picture books. Project forward fifty years. Will

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they be reading Middlemarch (or even Trainspotting)? If he really wants to invest in long-term remedies for the future reading deficit, Mr Blunkett should amend the tax and benefit laws to allow mothers (particularly) to spend more time, and better time, with their pre-school infants.

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Decent pay for all, please, Tony

OF ALL the times I've spoken on this subject, this is one of the most difficult. Part of me is cock-a-hoop, proud that we now have, for the first time in our time, a minimum wage law in this country below which noone will be exploited. It is a tribute to the hundreds of thousands of low-paid workers who campaigned for its introduction. This was not a campaign of the great and the good. Few politicians proclaimed its virtues. Few economists lent their names and brains. Some feared it would undermine free collective bargaining and even trade union organisation. It was an unpopular cause, the lost cause of the forgotten third of the population - low paid, disregarded, excluded the sweepers, the cleaners, the cooks and the carers who marched and lobbied and argued for the minimum wage, until they transformed it from the desperate cry of the few to

the commitment of the many. Yes, part of me is very proud and pleased. But part of me is outraged, that at the end of the 20th century, at the gateway of the new millennium we still will and live for six months on that course the landlord won't not pay a decent living wage. rate, let alone for a lifetime - charge any less, food isn't any

I don't and I won't decry the work that George Bain and his colleagues have done on the low-pay commission. His report will rank with the great social reports of the post and pre-war years. And I don't want to appear grudging, an ingrate.

But there is no gentle, easy way to put this: £3.60 per hour of work before stoppages cannot be fair and it cannot be an acceptable level. It is not enough for food, for clothing, for rent; not enough for a night out or to give the kids a treat. Not enough to sustain a life that we all have a right to expect.

I believe £3.60 is a retreat from earlier commitments: Two and a half million less people covered than the half male median earnings target we so long fought for; some 600,000 less people than the wages councils covered before their abolition.

I don't expect public confessions from my prime minister nor from you, Mr President, for that matter

But these six coins in my hand are worth £3.60, and I defy Tony and Cherie, John Edmonds, me or anybody to try message to the young. And of



PODIUM

RODNEY BICKERSTAFFE From a speech by the general secretary of Unison to the TUC in Blackpool

and be happy and content. But it's only £3.60 if you're 22 years old. If you're 21 or younger, not this year but next you'll get £3 an bour - £114 per week - not £6,000 a year

I tell you, it's bad news to short change anybody at any age, but to short change the future, our sons and daughters and grandchildren? What a

cheaper at the supermarket check-out. No pub or disco will reduce its prices because you're on a second-class min-

It's an old trade union principle. If you're 61 or 21 and you're doing the job, you should get the rate for the job. And I don't believe that the jobs of the next millennium depend on pathetically low rates of pay. The danger, the fear has always been that if you set the minimum wage too low, if you fail to connect up with the collective bargaining aganda, it might become a maximum. rather than a minimum, level

We need to refocus our efforts. The composite calls for a bargaining target of at least £4.61, our current half male median earnings figure.

Before long no worker should have less than £5 an hour negotiated by unions. Additionally, there needs to

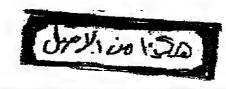
be a new fair wages clause. Our last one, scrapped by the Tories, was to bring us into line with every other European country-requiring employers to recognise the going rate in the sector and not give cowboy contractors the chance to legally undermine public sector provision and standards. And we need a mechanism for uprating the minimum wage annually. Without it the rate is static and loses even its little value.

Before the Minimum Wage Act comes into effect, my union hopes that trades unions, pensioners and community groups will rally together to not only mark the occasion of the new law but to highlight our commitment to press forward through the hreached walls of poverty pay to our goal. Plimsoll lines have been

mentioned and our Prime Minister this very day spoke of sinking ships. We know that it's those in steerage who suffer when the water comes over. We want a way out of steerage.

Our time will come. We're not there yet. But our aim is. as always, the end of sweated labour, the end of wage exploitation, the end of poverty pay and the start of an era when the labourers are not only worthy of their hire hut get it and at a decent level.

Tony said we're at the start of the "giving age". Give us decency and dignity. Support the cause, support the motion I move.



and thin

Help the madman of Europe

YOU DON'T need to make a phone call to the Foreign Office, the Quai D'Orsay or the State Department to know exactly what their Albania watchers have been thinking this week: "Here we go again." In their more polite moments they may talk about the sick man of Europe, but you know what they are really thinking - that Albania is in fact the madman of Europe.

A real madman can be locked up though. Lurching from one violent crisis to the next. Albania cannot he locked up - or ignored. Whatever happens, the rest of Europe has no choice: it has to persist in helping this wounded country - even it means doing so for a generation. If Albania is isolated and forgotten, we will all feel the consequences.

It is hard to know where to start in trying to explain the roots of the political culture that have led Albania into disaster. The tragedy is that ever since its liberation from the Turks in 1912, Albania has continued to live by politics of the pashas. As one Albanian put it to me: "Either you're in power - or in jail." And it is this relentless and destructive tradition that Albania has not yet had the chance to break.

Following the corrupt despotism of the Ottomans came the inter-war dictatorship of King Zog, then the Italian fascist occupation, followed by the Nazis followed in short order hy Titoism and Stalinism with a short hreak for a spot of Maoism. Still groggy, then, it is hardly surprising that Albanians have had problems finding their balance in modern Europe.

At first, after the fall of communism in 1991, it was easy to explain away the madness that then gripped the country. It was anger against the Communists which led to an orgy of destruction, to the burning down of factories and the wholesale pillage of anything state-owned.

s, must

And then it seemed as if things were going to be all right. Sali Berisha, a sophisticated former cardiologist, came to power in 1992 and began to set things to rights. He had the full support of the west and money began to pour into the country from the hundreds of thousands who had fled to Greece, Italy and elsewhere looking for jobs and money.

Although Albania was starting from a very low base, its economy began to grow. Foreigners, especially Greeks and Italians, were interested in investing and no one paid much attention when a man called Fatos Nano, the leader of the Socialist Party - the ex-Communists - was slung in Jail, allegedly for pilfering Italian aid.

For a glorious moment then it looked as though Albania was going to make it. It has some of the most unspoiled coastline in the whole of Europe, and though small, the signs were encouraging. For example, it was common to meet men who had worked in Greece, saved up some money bought some machinery and come home to set up some sort of workshop or another.

But something insidious was happening. Pyramid investment schemes began to operate. This was perhaps to be expected because they were simultaneously springing up in Russia, Romania, Serbia and elsewhere. The difference was that Albanians, dazzled by the phenomenal rates of interest they were paying out, invested almost all their savings in them. When, at the beginning of last year, the schemes came tumbling down, the rest of Europe thought the Albanians were idiots. How could they have been so gullible?

The answers they gave were instructive. "We're not as stupid as you think," explained



TIM JUDAH Lurching from one violent

crisis to the next, Albania cannot be ignored. Europe must aid this wounded nation

noe man. "We thought our money must be safe since these pyramids were laundering criminal money and paying the government and socialists at the same time. Obviously we thought they would have a vested interest in keeping them going."

Last March the country was up in arms, it rose in a general uprising against Berisha Berisha tried to cling to power but eventually resigned last August after his Democratic Party was crushed in the general elections. The rest of Europe seemed happy. Fatos Nano, out of gaol now, was Prime Minister and so Albania could begin rebuilding - again.

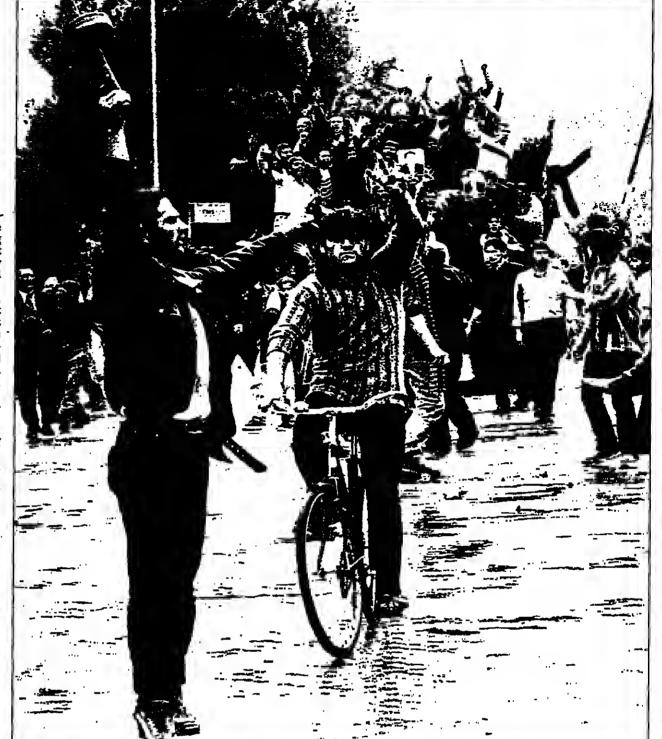
What the rest of Europe had not counted on was the politics of revenge. Nano had been in jail for four years and Berisha was an angry man. Ministries were purged of Berisha supporters and in came Nano's men. It was Albanian buggin's turn - and with increasing frustration, people began to realise that the new lot were as corrupt as the old. Political tension rose and fell. In September Azem Hajdari, one of Berisha's closest allies, was shot and wounded in parliament by a Socialist deputy.

While most of the country returned to some form of normality though, the new government, made up mostly of southerners, never managed to reassert its control over large areas of the north, including Tropoja, the region from where Berisha comes from. The beginning of the conflict in Kosovo now meant that he also had another stick with which to beat the Socialists.

Tensions began to mount once more and, at the same time, security situation began to deteriorate again. Trucks on the main road south began to be held up by gangsters from a village known as a Democratic Party stronghold, Gangsters, politicians and men from the Kosovo Liberation Army began squabbling over the lucrative arms trade to the north. Then, at the end of last month, out of the blue, the government arrested six former Berisha ministers and government officials charging them with crimes against humanity.

Berisha leapt at his chance, claiming that democracy was under threat and that it should be defended even "by force". When, last Sunday Azem Hajdari was assassinated in front of the Democratic Party headquarters, his supporters claimed that the government had killed him. In fact, since he was alleged to have been a kingpin gun runner, he may have fallen foul of a something far less sinister. Berisha supporters began a violent rampage through Tirana, forcing Nano to flee his office at gunpoint.

Now Nano wants Berisha in jail - to pay back Berisha in kind. But, if violence cannot be curbed, then the Balkans and indeed the rest of Europe is facing a minor cata-



Armed Democratic Party protesters on the streets of Tirana in this week's attempted coup

strophe. A lawless Albania is one in which mafia gangs with tentacles that reach to compromise is humiliation, who believe in Milan, Stuttgart and even London can flourish. It is also one that sends out hundreds of thousands of impoverished people in search of work- or crime - anything with which to raise enough cash to live with.

Over the last four years, some 30,000 Albanians have asked for political asylum in Britain alone and every single one has claimed to be from Kosovo. In fact two thirds of them are from Albania. Italy has a major problem with the Albanian mafia - and so does the Italian mafia, who have found the Albanians muscling in on their home turf. In Germany, too, impoverished Albanians have become a major headache for the police and the drugs squads.

Albania is trapped in a vicious circle. Be-

cause it is run by politicians who believe that revenge and in making as much money as possible before being overthrown, no one wants to invest there. In this climate, Albanian businessmen, plagued by protection rackets, cannot rebuild their country either and so no jobs can he

What Albania needs is a completely new set of politicians. Since we cannot create them ourselves the only thing to do is to persist. Scholarships, aid, training and any other useful forms of help have to contique because it is in our interests to help as much as it is in theirs. We should support the calls of Germany and Italy who are recommending an international police force for the country and increased EU aid.

An unstable Albania threatens the rest of the region. For example, the uprising in Kosovo was only possible after last year's uprising released a million Kalashnikovs from the armouries for anyone to loot, or in the case of Kosovars, to buy

Macedonia, with its large Albanian minority, remains a fragile state and if unrest spreads from Kosovo and Albania, the long-predicted "doomsday scenario" of war across the southern Balkans could easily follow.

So, we must persist. Like the vast majority of decent Albanians, we must wait until they find their new leaders. Gloomily Julia Goga-Cooke, the editor of the BBC Albanian Service, says: "I don't think that will happen in my lifetime." But we have

RIGHT OF REPLY

RUTH LEA



The head of policy at the Institute of Directors answers Ken Livingstone's attack on 'fat cats'

l READ Ken Livingstone's recent comments on directors' pay and the need for the Institute of Directors to "get their heads out of the pig trough long enough to take a look at the real world" with weary resignation.

May I explain our position? Directors' remuneration is broadly determined by market forces, as is the pay of trade union leaders, footballers, pop stars, TV presenters and son on. Moreover, for top-performing British directors, the market is international. We live in a global, market economy. This is the real world!

Now, we accept that the remuneration of large company (FTSE100) directors has increased more rapidly than for their employees in recent years. And, indeed, it has increased at a faster rate than for the vast majority of directors. Last year we conducted an

loD members survey which showed that in 1997 the average increase in remuneration (comprising salary, bonuses and all "perks") was in the range of three to four per cent - much in line with the national average. The survey showed that the directors of many small and medium-sized companies were relatively modestly paid. Average remuneration for a director of a company with turnover of less than £25m was £64,000 (less than John Monks', I understand) and the equivalent figure for a director of a company with turnover of between £25m and £200m was £105,000.

sponsibilities, the risks they take and the hours they commit to their firms, these figures are modest. And let us not forget the huge contribution husinessmen and women make to our country. Business provides jobs and creates wealth and pays for welfare and the NHS. And pays the salary of the MP for Brent East!

Given directors' buge re-

In pursuit of the perfect chip

THOUGH IT contains barely a dozen recipes that you would want to attempt, this book is gastronomic writing of the highest order, deserving a place alongside Elizabeth David and M F K Fisher The pieces gathered here originally appeared in American Vogue. It is strange to think that Steingarten's heroic culinary feats l'Alsacienne twice a day for five days while researching sauerkraut, or importing rendered horse fat from Vienna to New York in an attempt to achieve the perfect frite - first appeared in a journal which is otherwise a celebration of anorexia.

However, it would be inaccurate to assume that Steingarten is hoggishly



THURSDAY BOOK

THE MAN WHO ATE EVERYTHING BY JEFFREY STEINGARTEN, HEADLINE, £14.99

such as scoffing choucroute garnie à impossible to resist a slab of prizewinning barbecue ribs that has just arrived through the post: "profoundly delicious, satisfying every need that the human body and soul have for food". It is just that he is irrationally, heroically obsessional when it comes to food. Where most dedicated food-lovers stop is where Steingarten starts.

He spends almost a year attemptgreedy, though at one point he finds it ing to re-create the pain au levain na-

turel produced by Lionel Pollane at 8 rue du Cherche-Midi, Paris, the "most famous bakery in the world". Similarly, Steingarten spares no effort to re-produce the "most honoured mashed potatoes in the world", whipped up by Joel Robuchon (Omar Sharif always has two helpings), though he finds Robuchon's addition of half a pound of butter to every pound of la ratte pota-

toes to be a trifle excessive.

Winningly, Steingarten admits his mistakes. His attempt to cook the legendary Japanese beef known as Wagyu results in steak that is "fibrous, mealy and nearly inedible" (following a meal of Wagyu in Osaka costing \$340 a head, his second effort is "wonderful"). And his quest for the ideal chip comes unstuck when "the horse fat began prematurely to go rancid and dark".

Along with such Herculean endeavours, Steingarten mixes in a generous measure of good sense. Pondering the widespread fear of raw shellfish, he notes that "the chance of suffering a substantial injury in one day of skiing is 10 times worse than the chance of getting sick from eating a plate of cold, plump, bring, succulent

raw oysters". Every health freak should be forced to read the chapter ominously entitled "Salad the Silent Killer", which gleefully informs readers that undercooked broad beans contain cyanide and fave beans can cause nausea, fatigue and, in extreme cases, jaundice. The sale of chickpeas is illegal in many Indian states due to the risk of lathyrism (lesions of the spinal cord which cause paralysis of the legs),



Could Viennese horse fat be the secret of the ideal frite?

Steingarten is particularly revealing

on the topic of salt. He notes that though the Yanomamo indians of porthern Brazil, who eat a virtually saltfree diet, have "amazingly low blood pressure", the lack of sodium in their diet means that any injury may be disastrous (a particular drawback, since one-third of Yanamamo deaths result from violence). In any case, dropping salt would make no difference to most of us. For 92 per cent of the world's population, there is "no significant link" be-

tween salt and blood pressure. Warming to his theme, Steingarten thunders, "Why public health officials want the entire population to act as if we were allergic to salt is beyond me... They never bother to calculate the profound benefits that scrumptious food can bring to our otherwise desperate lives. In 1,000-plus pages of federal nutritional reports I was unable to locate any instance of the words 'delicious'. 'delectable', 'savoury' or 'yummy'."

Steingarten approaches dieting with the same thoroughness that he tackles indulgence. After a resentful month as a vegan, he finds that his cho-lesterol is "slightly higher than when

while immature green potatoes can I started". With some difficulty, be persuades Proctor & Gamble to let him cook with Olestra, the miracle fat which passes unchanged through the body. Although the notorious problem of "anal seepage" has been overcome, he finds that Olestra-fried delicacies are "repulsively greasy". Steingarten's sharpest barbs are reserved for the best-selling faddists who propound no-fat diets.

This nutritional good sense is balanced by saliva-inducing forays into rural Italy and Kyoto. In his final chapter, he tackles that most daunting of all culinary challenges, the turkey. If you're condemned to having this gruesome bird, you may want to try out a "Thompson's Turkey" in three months time. Described as being "something of a cult", it involves baking the fowl in a flour-and-egg crust. Though the meat is "the most flavoursome and moist you will ever taste" Steingarten resents the loss of the turkey skin. Except for his bizarre prejudices concerning British taste and cuisine ("The British go to Greece just for the food, which says volumes to me"), this book is a banquet of wit, curiosity and good sense.

CHRISTOPHER HIRST





ON SALE 17 SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY POEM

FROG BY STANLEY MOSS

I hold this living coldness, this gland with eyes, mouth, feet, shattered mirror of all creatures, pulsing smile of fish, serpent, and man, feet and fingers come out of a head that is also a tail, just as I caught him most of my life ago

in the sawdust of the icehouse. I could not believe in him if he were not here. He rests my spirit and is beautiful as waterlilles. The sound of his call is too large for his body: "irrelevant, irrelevant, irrelevant." Once in the dry countries he was a god.

From Stonley Moss's 'Asleep in the Gorden: new ond selected poems' (Anvil, £9.95), Anvil Press celebrates its 30th birthdoy this autumn. Our poems this week come from its lotest titles.

Barrett Deems

"BARRETT." SAID Louis Arm- tra and Grace Kelly Amongst the strong, "you're the only guy in the world that makes coffee nervous." Barrett Deems, hilled as "the fastest drummer in the world" during his five years with Armstrong's All Stars, was an abrasive man driven by a restless energy.

He had constant rows with the rest of the band, who used to hold meetings about him. "I don't care," said Armstrong, "as

long as he goes ding-a-ding-a-ding-"What'a wrong with you?" Arm-

strong's manager Joe Glaser asked "Nothing," answered Deems. "I

Deems was given his first drum because he was a hyperactive child. He remained so for the 84 years of

I met him when he came to Liverpool with Armstrong in 1956. I wrote in Melody Maker: "The coffee lounge of Liverpool's Adelphi Hotel is designed to strike awe into all but cabinet ministers and the most eminently U. In Barrett Deems they hit a dead end." At that stage Deems had taken a dislike to all Europeans and wasn't afraid to say so.
Asked what he thought of Europe he said. "They should clean it up, paint it and sell it.'

He was a small, wiry little man whose most notable feature was his huge Adam's apple and he never stopped moving. "I play drums the way I used to box." I ducked as he demonstrated with a quick jab and uppercut to the table. A portly gentleman in evening dress rose from his chair nearby, folded his newspaper and left.

The way we travel round the world, you got to stay healthy," Deems said. He admitted to smoking four packs of Camels a day. He offered me one and lit it with a cigarette lighter like a blowlamp, "That's a real lighter, man. The best make in the world. You can't knock it out; you can't blow it out. Look." He blew. The lighter went out.

Deems travelled the world with Armstrong on tours sponsored by the US State Department and documented in the film Satchmo the Great (1956). At a concert in Ghana, Deems's drum feature "Mop Mop" so excited the 100,000 crowd that a riot broke out. That same year the band appeared in the film High Society with Bing Crosby, Frank Sina- joined Red Norvo. His eccentric sustain himself against the con-

FEW ACTORS were more effective

at portraying helligerent, chip-ontheir-shoulder characters than

Dane Clark. Small in stature, but

tough and wiry he was frequently

compared to John Garfield, one of

the top stars at the same studio.

Warners, but Clark, though popular

with cinemagoers in the Forties,

never achieved similar stardom.

His pugnacious rebels created less

empathy than Garfield's and some-

times (as in his overdrawn anarchic

painter of A Stolen Life) upset a

The actor's intensity was both his

strength and his weakness. Though

film's balance in their ferocity.

father was hanged for murder.

the evening performance.

more than 2,000 recordings he made during his career Deems played on two of Armstrong's most famous albums - Satch Plays Fats (1955) and Satch Plays W.C. Handy (1956). Deems said of Armstrong:

He was the most beautiful man I ever worked for and the best entertainer in the world. He was constantly giving money away. Sometimes, if someone oo the street asked him for 25 cents, he'd give them a \$100 hill and tell them to buy some food and clothes and find a place

some food and clothes and find a place to stay. A lot of people would ask him about me, "Why do you have a white drummer?" He'd just say "Because I like his playing." Period.

I remember once we were in Biloxi, Mississippi, and we couldn't find a hotel that would let us in. So here's Louis, who always had about \$10,000 cash in his pocket, and the guy can't get a hotel room. The whole band had to sleep in a gymnasium that night. Go figure it out.

It is hard to think of anyone else who worked for so many eminent bandleaders. When Deems began to play he couldn't be bothered to learn to read music and never did. "Who cares?" he said. "Buddy Rich and Gene Krupa couldn't read too well either, but they could play. Guess what? That's what counts."

Deems was in Chicago as the Twenties roared and the city was transformed into the crucible of jazz by Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton, King Oliver and other of the music's innovators. "Every block had four clubs," he said. "You only made \$14 a week playing from nine at night until four in the morning. But you could hear everyone - Krupa, Dave Tough, Baby Dodds, all the great drummers." Deems led his own



'Why do you have a white drummer?' Louis Armstrong was often asked. He would just say, 'Because I like his playing'

stage personality was well captured in the 1951 film Rhythm Inn., a story about a young songwriter and a bud-ding girl vocalist in which Deems was given a feature number. His first visit to Europe followed shortly afterwards under the leadership of Charlie Barnet. On his return he made a significant move by leaving the big-band field to work in the Dixieland group led by the cornettist Muggsy Spanier. This was the first of many such small bands he joined.

stant travelling, and died in his fifties as a result. "Never cared for the stuff." commented Deems, who abstained for most of his life.

As the Armstrong sidemen had learned, the Teagarden men found that travelling as a sextet with Deems on board had its problems. "He was no trouble," said the band's trumpeter, Bohby Lewis. "We put Barrett's drums in the car and Barrett in the boot." Deems settled finally in Chicago

American musicians billed as "The Wonderful World of Louis Armstrong" in the early Eighties. Fast becoming a legend in Chicago, he recorded and worked there with a blues pianist who already had that status, Art Hodes, an expatriate Russian who had become a jazz great.

Still thin and sprightly into his eighties, Deems wore bottle-thick glasses, had hair that a hairdresser described as "18 cowlicks" and had grown a beard which failed to stop the Adam's apple protruding at will. He resembled, as one of the local papers put it, a rooster. In the early Nimeties, he took advantage of his extraordinary appearance and volatile stage manner to form a hig band. The audience loved his corrosive cracks, but these did not detract from the fact that his band, which played regularly at the Elbo Room in Chicago, was a very good one that attracted some of the city's best musicians. Amongst them was Deems's wife Jane Johnson, who played alto and flute in the band and was more than 30 years his junior. One of the band members said to him, "Don't you worry about the big age difference?" "No," said Deems.

If she dies, she dies."

radio presenter Campbell Burnap and producer Terry Carter called at Deems's home. It reflected the drummer's personality. By now he collected drums and one bedroom was jammed to the ceiling with them. One of the largest was a bass drum that had been used in John Philip Sousa's original hrass band. The six cats and three dogs that ran

about the house were unimpressed. Deems nearly died from a collapsed lung in 1993 but determinedly rose from his bed and continued to lead and play with the band each week until his death. His drumming was slightly less swift, but otherwise

"I got six, maybe seven hundred lighters back home. I collect them," he told me at the Adelphi, "This one's a present from Zildjian, who makes the cymbals," He lit the monster again, "Look, you can't blow it out." This time he blew more gently. The huge flame flickered - and then shot up again. Deems beamed delightedly. "See!"

STEVE VOCE

Barrett Deems, drummer and bandleader: born Springfield, Illinois 1 March 1914; twice married (one daughter); died Chicogo 15 September 1998.

Sir Arthur Vick

IN 1964 Arthur Vick became President and Vice-Chancellor of the Queen's University of Belfast. During the following ten years he demonstrated his consummate administrative skills, guiding the university during a period of terrorism and political unrest which started in 1968.

Queen's University had been one of the three non-sectarian university colleges of the University of Ireland formed in 1845, and it remained nonsectarian, welcoming students from across the religious divide. It says much for Vick's quiet and unassuming administration that the university remained an oasis of peace and sanity, where students from across the divide met and studied, debated and socialised together. Many formed lasting relationships, which in the long term has greatly helped the return of peace and sanity to the province.

As the Troubles developed, Belfast became a virtual cultural wilderness, until with the strong support and initiative of Vick, the annual Queen's University Arts Festival was developed. This event, which had been set up on a smaller scale the year before his appointment, was expanded to offer both the students and the general public a wide range of cultural events which were (and continue to be) very well supported.

Vick was also keen on developing closer relationships between the university and industry, both worldwide and in particular in Northern Ireland. He supported the creation of industrial advisory units to provide consultancy services, design and development and continuing education courses attuned to industrial need. He supported the development of a Low Cost Automation Centre and the Wolfson Signal Processing Centre. which after his retirement, together with the existing Materials Testing Station, formed the Northern Ireland Technology Centre at Queen's.

Vick was born in 1911, and educated at the Waverley Grammar School, Birmingham, and Birmingham University, where he ohtained a physics degree and a PhD in solid state physics. From 1936 to 1944 he was an Assistant Lecturer and then Lecturer in Physics at University College London. During the Second World War he was transferred to the Ministry of Supply, becoming an Assistant Director of Research. This gave him administrative experience which stood him in good stead.

After the war Vick returned to the academic world as a Lecturer, and later Senior Lecturer in Physics at Manchester University in 1950 he was appointed Professor of Physics in the University College of North Staffordshire (later to become Keele University). There his administrative skills were in demand as he served as Vice-Principal and Acting Principal from 1950 to 1954. He was also involved in the Institute of Physics, holding various positions including Vice-President and Honorary Secretary.

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In 1959 Vick moved back into scientific administration, firstly as the Deputy Director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment (AERE) at Harwell and then as its Director from 1960 to 1964. From 1964 until he returned to the academic world in 1966 he was Member for Research of the UKAEA, with responsibility for the Harwell, Culham and Wantage Laboratories. He continued to serve on several important committees, including as member of the Advisory Council on Research and Development of the Ministry of Power (1960-63) and the University Grants Committee (1959-66), as well as being President of the Association of Teachers in Colleges and Departments of Education from 1964 to 1972.

Vick was knighted in 1973 for his services to higher education in Northern Ireland. He will be remembered by many in Queen's University as a very friendly, if rather shy, man, who made a most significant contribution to the development

of the university in difficult times. Vick retired to live at Warwick. He became very involved in Warwick University, serving as Chairman of Council (1977-80) and Pro-Chancellor from 1977 to 1992. He helped develop its entrepreneurial culture, aimed to protect the university from the never-ending so-called refficiency gains", a euphemism for cuts.

BERNARD CROSSLAND

Francis Arthur Vick, physicist and university administrator: born 5 June 1911; Assistant Lecturer in Physics, University College, London 1936-39. Lecturer 1939-44; Lecturer in Physics. Manchester University 1944-47. Senior Lecturer 1947-50. OBE 1945; Professor of Physics, University College of North Staffordshire 1950-59. Vice-Principal 1950-54, Acting Principal 1952-53; Deputy Director, AERE, Harwell 1959-60, Director 1960-64; Director of Research Group, UKAEA 1961-64, Member for Research 1964-66: President and Vice-Chancellor, Queen's University. Belfast 1966-76; Kt 1973; Pro-Chancellor, Warwick University 1977-92, married 1943 Elizabeth Story (died 1989: one daughter): died Warwick 2 Seplember 1998.

when petrol shortage and the draft forced the violinist to disband. Deems worked for Jimmy Dorsey,

bands in Chicago before coming to the notice of the jazz violinist Joe Venuti, a man with a similarly abrasive character. Deems joined Venuti's band in 1937 and stayed until 1944

Tommy Dorsey and then Woody Herman before returning to his home town of Springfield. Then, in 1948, he

"Spanier paid lousy money, always had done, and when I left because of this he thought I didn't appreciate him. He was right."

At that stage Deems had taken a dislike to all Europeans and

wasn't afraid to say so. Asked what he thought of Europe he

said, 'They should clean it up, paint it and sell it'

The years with Armstrong followed and then in 1960 Deems came off the road to lead his own band at Brass Rail club in Chicago. After a few months he joined the band led by the trombonist Jack Teagarden, an easygoing virtuoso who drank to

Clark then settled into a run of

girl-chasing "best buddy" roles, por-

in 1964 and from then on worked with the Dukes of Dixieland and accompanied visiting musicians such as Buck Clayton, Joe Venuti, Benny Carter, Teddy Wilson and Red Norvo. Still in demand, he toured Eastern Europe with Benny Goodman's sextet in 1976 and in the early Eighties went to South America with Wild Bill Davison.

The drummer returned to Britain to take part in a tour with British and Armstrong a few years ago, the

Researching for a programme on

Clark with Lita Milan on location for the 1955 film The Toughest Man Alive

Dane Clark starred the 19-year-old Orson Welles, its producers included John Houseman and Virgil Thomson, and the Greek-style chorus was choreographed by Martha Graham.

Clark then joined the socially conscious Group Theatre and acted in a highly praised Clifford Odets dou-ble-bill, the anti-Nazi Till The Day I Die and the radical Waiting for Lefty (1935), in which the auditorium assumed to be the meeting hall for a group of taxi drivers at a union meeting, with the audience the potential strikers and actors spotted throughout the house to increase the feeling of audience participation. Clark's last 1935 show was the

he graduated to leading roles at the studio, his best chance came when most auccessful, Sidney Kingley's he was loaned to Republic to star in Dead End, about the deleterious ef-Frank Borzage's Moomise, a moody fects of New York's slums, which ran piece in which Clark was ideally cast as a hot-tempered outsider whose

'They were Born Bernard Zanville in 1913 in Brooklyn, New York, he was a fine always giving me athlete and was given the opportu-nity to become a baseball player, but lines like "You chose higher education instead. He received a BA from Cornell Univerwoman, you". In sity and a law degree from St John's University, New York, but the De-The Very Thought pression limited his opportunities and he worked as a labourer, boxer of You I had to and model before turning to writing bark like a dog This led to acting, and he made his Broadway debut (as Bernard when I saw a girl' Zanville) in Friedrich Woolf's Sailors

of Catarro (1934), produced by the leftist Theatre Union. George Tobias (later also a contract player at Warnfor two years. Clark then toured in several plays, including the Group ers) was in the cast and he and Clark were among those arrested when Theatre's biggest success, Odets' some of the company joined Com-Golden Boy, until being called to Holmunist pickets demonstrating lywood in 1941 to act in promotional films being made by the US Army. against Orbach's department store. Though the matinee was cancelled, Bit parts in movies followed, including The Glass Key, Wake Island and Pride of the Yankees (all 1942), the actors were bailed out in time for

Clark was next in Panic (1935), and at Warners the Bogart war film which ran for only three perfor-Action in the North Atlantic (1943). mances but was described by one Warners then offered him a concritic as "the outstanding critical failtract, and with the new name of Dane Clark he was given a featured role in Destination Tokyo (1943), the ure of the year". An anti-capitalist blank-verse tragedy that attempted to account for the national bank first of two films he made with calamity of 1933 in terms of Greek Garfield (who was also a graduate drama, it is considered an important of the Group Theatre). The story of a submarine crew on combat duty part of theatrical history for several reasons - it was the first play by the poet Archibald MacLeish, it featured Clark as Tin Can, most aggressive of the crew members.

traying the soldier friend of Dennis Morgan in The Very Thought of You (1944), Robert Hutton's soldier pal in Hollywood Canteen (1944), and a wounded soldier who befriends a blinded marine (Garfield) at a military hospital in Pride of the Marines (1945). His role in the allstar Hollywood Canteen is remembered for the moment when he says to the girl with whom he is dancing, "You know, you're a dead ringer for Joan Crawford." When she replies, "Don't look now, but I am Joan

> He began to tire of such typecasting, though, and had the first of several battles with the studio head Jack Warner for better roles and more pay. "They were always giving me lines like 'You woman, you'," he said later. "They had me as a teenage soldier back from the Pacific or some place. In The Very Thought of You I had to bark like a dog when I saw a girl. I ask you, how can you be subtle - how can you underplay when you're making sounds like a dog?"

After A Stolen Life (1946), in

Crawford", Clark promptly faints.

which as a consistently hadtempered painter he woos Bette Davis with the line, "Man eats woman and woman eats man; that's basic", he was given his first star-ring role in Her Kind of Man (1946), a half-hearted attempt by the studio to recapture the glory of their earlier gangster films, in which Clark, as a newspaper man, gets Janis Paige, a night-club singer, out of the clutches of the gangster Zachary Scott. Whiplosh (1948) was similar, only this time Clark was a painter

Before this, Clark had his best role at Warners, as a bitter convict who escapes from a chain-gang and is sheltered by an introverted farm girl (Ida Lupino) in Deep Valley (1947). Because of a set builders' strike at the studio, the whole film was made on location in Big Sur and Big Bear, California, and its director Jean Negulesco later recounted that the long period away from the studio led Clark and Lupino to have a passionate affair which, he said, ended as quickly as it began once the couple returned to their

rescuing Alexis Smith from Scott.

Clark was then borrowed by Republic for Moonrise (1948). The story of a social outcast on the run after an accidental killing was treated with lyrical romanticism, and the offbeat teaming of the grim Clark and ethereal Gail Russell as his girlfriend gave the film extra piquancy. Clark finished his Warner contract with two minor films, Barricade (1950), in which he beat Raymond Massey, a sadistic mineowner, to death, and a mystery story, Backfire (1950).

trotters, Go Man Go. A consistent performer on radio

The following year Clark came to England to star with Margaret Lockwood in Roy Baker's comedy-thriller Highly Dangerous. In this fanciful tale of an entomologist (Lockwood) on a government spy assignment who is given a truth drug by the

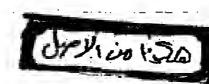
enemy under which she imagines herself as her favourite Dick Bartonlike radio character and saves the day with the aid of an American reporter (Clark), the actor revealed an unexpectedly droll sense of humour. In 1954 he co-produced and starred in the story of the Harlem Globe-

throughout his career, Clark was also a television pioneer, appearing in a Chevrolet Tele-Theatre episode in 1949. He went on to appear in dozens of television shows and starred in two series, Wire Service (1956-57) as a reporter, and Bold Venture (1957), which he described at the time as "about an adventure-bent skipper of a small Caribbean boat-for-hire. Eugene O'Neill this ain't."

Television movies in which he appeared included Say Goodbye, Maggie Cole (1975), the last film made by Susan Hayward, and from 1974 until 1978 he had a regular role on the series Police Story. Clark returned to Broadway in the Sixties as replacement lead in Tchin Tchin and A Thousand Clowns. Late in that decade his wife of many years, Margot Yoder, died, and in 1972 he married a young stockbroker, Geraldine Frank

TOM VALLANCE

Bernard Zanville (Dane Clark), actor. born New York 18 February 1913; married first Margot Yoder (deceased), second 1972 Geraldine Frank; died Santa Monica. California 11 September 1998.





Littlewood, left, with John Bradbury (viola), Basil Howitt (cello) and Keith Jones (piano) at Chetham's, 1957

Gerald Littlewood

ANY FINAL assessment of how Humphrey Chetham's Bluecoat foundation of 1653 grew by 1969 to be Britain's foremost specialist school of music, Chetham's, will surely acknowledge Gerald Littlewood's role as having been seminal. His appointment as resident arts and crafts master in 1949. fresh from Loughborough Training College, will be seen as a decisive step in a remarkable evolution.

His arrival in Manchester happily coincided with the headmastership of the dedicated and visionary Harry Vickers. Through the Fifties and Sixties they managed an impressive succession of educational advances in which music always featured strongly. Not least of these was the grant-aid agreement with the oeighbouring Manchester Cathedral, which introduced able choristers to Chetham's and involved the creative collaboration of the cathedral's organist and PE. He also provided pastoral

could participate and from which a fine orchestra and choirs would emerge. Throughout this period a packed Free Trade Hall would resound each October to the music of more than a hundred Littlewood-trained children, many of whose instruments Littlewood had either made or repaired and who played music a good deal of which Norman Cocker had been encouraged either to impose or arrange.

It is difficult to believe the kind of schoolmastering of those early days. As one of only three resident masters Littlewood would call school reveille at 6.15am, have an orchestra practice under way by seven and, between breakfast and school, rehearse a choir of 30. Typically, his daily teaching programme included, in addition to his specialist art and crafts and his adopted music, English, Religious Instruction Littlewood immediately found ways music, stage- and puppet-construction he befriended is legendary. He forgot born Audenshaw, Lancashire 7 Sepof harnessing the budding expertise of and wine-making. He might then speud none of the boys, and later girls, who these able youngsters in his mission to the evening taking pupils on a lecture came under his influence at Chetham's, one stepson); died Old Colwyn, Chwyd create a musical culture in which all recital in aid of school instruments.

His instrument-making began in earnest when, in the mid-Sixties, he found a wealth of discarded seasooed sycamore in the ancient school laundry. Several Tertis model violas emerged which still speak with a strong, warm orchestral voice. His later instruments, made in a zestful experimental period after his retirement from Chetham's, were less likely to raise an eyebrow amongst chamber music players.

During his happy retirement with his wife Audrey and daughter Annie in North Wales, he threw himself into the life of the church and community, carving elegant choir-stalls, encouraging young people in church music, teaching string-playing with freshness and enthusiasm in a local school, singing light opera and performing salon music on the local pier pavilion. During the last two years, however, cancer took its toll.

would recount their memorable es- 1 September 1998.

capades and follow their progress with interest, A Lancashire Grammar School lad from Audenshaw, son of a policeman he was at home with ordinary folk loving the homely verse of the Lancashire dialect poet Edwin Waugh. He was less at home amongst professional musicians and gave pretentiousness short shrift.

Gerald Littlewood made things happen in the days before inspired amateurism became unfashionable, subsequently unacceptable. The heart of his significant contribution to Chetham's was to envisage, foster and sustain the ideal of a family community where music mattered and from which excellence could grow. Without his eclectic genius, Chetham's School of Music could not have gone on to develop its very special excellence.

KEITH JONES

tember 1927; married (one daughter,

MYTHOLOGICAL NOTES

ALAN F. ALFORD

Henny-Penny discovers Atlantis

IN THE English fairy tale, Henny-Penny was hit on the head by a falling object, and then set off with Cocky-Locky, Ducky-Daddles, and the rest of the tonguetwisting farmyard crew, to warn the king that "the sky's a-going to fall". What was the reason for this paranoid behaviour? Surprisingly, the answer can be found in the famous legend of the lost island of

When the Greek philosopher Plato described Atlantis as an "island" which was struck by an earthquake and sank into the sea, he inspired countless generations of explorers to search the deepest oceans and furthermost corners of the Earth for the remnants of a lost civilisation. However, these expeditions were wild-goose chases, because the Egyptians - the source of Plato's Atlantis legend - firmly believed that the lost island was up in the sky.

It was a central tenet of ancient Egyptian religion that the sky had fallen to Earth on more than one occasion. The oldest of these fallen sky-deities was Geb, who was said to have laid a Great Egg out of which emerged the phoenix with a blinding flash of light. Geb then let out a piercing scream and fell to the Earth's surface, carrying out "construction work" in "millions of places".

Another fallen god was Osiris, who was born in the sky but was then "laid low" by the evil god Seth. Osiris was said to have "split open" the Earth, and come to rest in the deep dark caverns of the underworld.

The Egyptians believed that the gods had descended to the Earth from a place in the sky, known variously as the "Homeland of the Primeval Ones", the "eastern Horizon of Heaven" or the "Mountain-Land of the God". But underlying all of these epithets was the image of an island floating in an infinite abyss of primeval waters,

How did this island come to be lost? The Egyptians claimed that Osiris had drowned (compare the sinking of Atlantis), but they also said that Osiris had been "dismembered", i.e. chopped into pieces a close parallel to the "earthquake" which destroyed Atlantis.

The myth of the sky falling to Earth reflected an Egyptian belief in a catastrophic "act of creation", a day when the sky-goddess Nut gave birth to her



Why did Atlas fail to withstand the sky?

"children of chaos" and the sky became "choked and stifled". The Earth was said to have become an "Island of Fire" as a result of impacts from heaven.

Was ancient Egyptian religion inspired by a meteorite which fell from the asteroid belt? The Egyptians believed that asteroids and meteorites were parts of the body of their sky-deity, who had been dismembered. Remarkably, this sky-deity was described in the same terms as used for the Earth herself – an island, a mountain, a throne, and a horizon. In other words, the Egyptians believed that their

"God" was a planet. The same idea is found in depictions of the god Atlas, supposedly the first king of Atlantis, who was shown supporting the heavens in the form of a planetary globe. The Greek meaning of his name tells us that Atlas failed to withstand the sky, which came crashing down to the Earth.

Atlantis was thus conceived as a planet which suffered a catastrophe and sank into the waters of space. But might there be a reality behind this myth? The notico that one or more planets have actually exploded in our solar system is not without its supporters in the science of astronomy. If their predictions concerning the explosive origins of asteroids and cornets are proved correct, the ancient Egyptian myths will become due for a re-assessment. And Henny-Penny won't be the only one to wake up with a sore head.

Alan F. Alford is the author of The Phoenix Solution: secrets of a lost civilisation' (Hodder & Stoughton, £18.99)

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

DEATHS

WALKER: A.S. (Johnny), aged 88, died peacefully at home 13 September. Funeral at Mortiake Crematorium Ipm Wednesday 23 September and afterwards at 3 Sandstone, Kent Road, TW9 3JJ. Donations if wished may be sent to Princess Alice Hospice con The Leask Centre, Kingston Hospital, Galsworthy Road, Kingston KY2 7QB.

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

Prince Edward, Patron, Ocean Youth Club, attends the Southampton Boat Show. The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Royal Anthropological Institute, opens the Sixth International Festival of Ethnographic Film, Goldsmiths' College, London SE14.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions Marriages, Denths, Memorial services. Wedding anniver-saries, In memoriam) are charged at £8.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette cements are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra.

BIRTHDAYS

son, former Chief Medical

Officer, Departments of

Health and of Social Security, 72: Miss Anne Bancroft. actress, 67; The Right Rev Timothy Bavin, former Bishop of Portsmouth, 63; Mr David Bintley, choreographer, 41; Professor Alec Broers, Vice-President, Cambridge University, 60; Mr Russell Brown MP, 47; Marshal of the RAF Lord Craig of Radley, 69; Mr Donald Cruickshank, Director-General, Oftel, 56; General Sir Kenneth Darling, former Commander in-Chief, Allied Forces, Northern Europe, 89; Miss Jennifer Dickson, artist and photographer, 62; Mr Bernard Everett, ambassador to Mozambique, 55; Sir Desmond Fennell, former High Court judge, 65; Mr Gwyn Francis, former Director-General, Forestry Commission, 68; Sir Richard Gaskell, former President,

Law Society, 62; Professor Sir John Hale, historian, 75; Miss Angela Heylin, chairman, Charles Barker, 55; Mr Damon Hill, racing driver, 38; Mr Michael Jack MP, 52: Miss Tessa Jowell MP, Minister for Public Health, 51: Mr Desmond Lynam, journalist and broadcaster. 56; Mr Roddy McDowell, actor, 70; Mr Reginald Marsh, actor, 72; Mr Brian Matthew, radio presenter, 70: Mr Stirling Moss, racing driver, 69; Sir Paul Newall, former Lord Mayor of London, 64; Mr Andrew Reed MP, 34; Miss Dinah Sheridan, actress, 78; Mr Colin Short, chairman, Umted Biscuits, 64; Miss Mary Stewart (Lady Stewart), historical

novelist, 82; Sir Jack Stewart-Clark, MEP, 69; Professor Sir Donald Ache-

Miss Karen Straker, showjumper, 34; Sir Jeremy Sullivan, High Court judge, 53; Miss Helen Vinson, actress, 91; Dr Elizabeth Wilkinson, former Professor of German, University College London, 89. ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Pope Paul V, 1552; Francisco Gomez de Quevado y Villegas, poet and satirist, 1580; Samuel Prout, water-colour painter, 1783; Edward William Lane, translator of The Thousand and One Nights, 1801; William Carlos Williams, poet, 1883; Charles Tomlinson Griffes, composer, 1884; Sir Francis Charles Chichester, yachtsman and aviator, 1901; Sir Frederick Ashton, choreographer, 1906; Dolores Costello, actress, 1906.

Deaths: Tobias George

Smollett, novelist, 1771; Alfred Victor, Comte de Vigny, poet, 1863; Walter Savage Landor, writer, 1864; William Henry Fox Talbot photographic pioneer, 1877; Eugène-Emmanuel Violletle-Duc, Gothic architect, 1879; Ethel Mary Dell (Mrs G.T. Savage), romantic novelist, 1939; Ruth Benedict, anthropologist, 1948; Dame Lilian Braithwaite, actress, 1948; Friedrich Adolf Paneth. chemist, 1958; Katherine Anne Porter, novelist, 1980; Professor Sir Karl Raimund Popper, philosopher, 1994.

On this day: Edinburgh was occupied by the Jacobites under the Young Pretender, 1745: the Constitution of the United States of America

Briton and Tagus, under Sir Thomas Staines and Captain Pipon, touched at Pitcairn Island in the Pacific, and found the descendants of the Bounty mutineers, 1814; an English eccentric announced in a San Francisco newspaper that be had became Norton I, Emperor of America, 1859: the indecisive Battle of Antietam (American Civil War) was fought, 1862; the Mont Cenis railway tunnel, Switzerland, opened, 1871; the Commonwealth of Australia was proclaimed, 1900: the operetta Viktoria and Her Hussar was performed in London for the first time, 1931; the first long-playing records were demonstrated in New York, but the venture failed, 1931; Poland was invaded by the Soviet Union, 1939; the 1st British Airborne Division landed at Arnhem. 1944; the first meeting took place of the North Atlantic Treaty Council, 1949; Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania. North

was signed, 1787; the frigates

Nations, 1991. Today is the Feast Day of St Columba of Cordova, St Francis of Camporosso, St Hildegard, St Lambert of Maastricht, St Peter Arbues, St Robert Bellarmine, St Satyrus of Milan, Saints Socrates and Stephen and St Theodora.

and South Korea, the Mar-

shall Islands and Micronesia

were admitted to the United

LECTURES

National Gallery: Jonathan Miller, "Reflections (iii): a discussion of the exhibition"

British Museum: Kim Sloan,

"R.W. Lloyd's Turner Water-

colours: in pursuit of perfection", 11.30am. Victoria and Albert Museum: Philippa Barton, Baroque and Rococo Ornament", 2pm. National Portrait Gallery: Brian Louis Pearce, "Algernon Charles Swinburne". 1.100m.

Wallace Collection: Peter Hughes, "French 18th-Century Filing Cabinets",

LADY CAIRNCROSS

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mary Frances Cairpeross will be held in the Chapel of St Peter's College, Oxford, on Saturday 26 September 1998 at 3pm, followed by tea in the Hall.

DINNERS

British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing The Annual Dinner of the 37th British Conference of Non-Destructive Testing was held yesterday evening at the Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Mr M.R. Dawson, President of the British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing, presided, Mr B. Larsen, President of the Danish Society for Non-Destructive Testing, was the speaker. The following prizes and awards were presented:

Were presented:

1997 Boy Sharpe Prize: Dr C.B. Scruby
ARA Technology). John Grimwade
Medal: Robert Banks, Roger Fanlow
and Professor Gordon Hayward Chrathchyde University). Ban Halmshaw
Award: Tony Wooldridge, Bob Chapman
and Graham Woodcock (Nuclear Electric): Ian Munns and George Georgiou
(PWD. T.H. Cole Award: British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing, West of
England Branch: Tony Lager Award:
British Institute of Non-Destructive
Testing, London & Home Counties
Branch.

On a walkabout with Mrs Thatcher

HOPES THAT Mrs Thatcher might go walkabout in the lower depths of the other Britain were quickly dashed. Her visits to the deprived urban areas of the country have been 17 SEPTEMBER 1987 planned as sunrise tours. Everything she saw was new

tech. If by inner city you mean Toxteth or Brixton, this was more like a day in the country. Teesside is a straggling conurbation of small cities or towns loosely tied together by motorways. Rain or smog might have been more appropriate but, in defiance of the weather forecasters, the sum shone brightly all day long and the ICI chem-

white smoke into a blue sky. We began at a derelict and deserted 75-acre site, trapped in the bed of the River Tees where a foundry had once stood, employing in its heyday 1,000 men. Some 50,000 jobs have gone from Teesside in the Thatcher years and the local unemployment rate in Middlesbrough is 28 per cent. The Prime Minister alighted from her Daimler and slipped into sensible shoes in which to pick her way through the pot-

ical works was on its best be-

haviour, emitting picturesque

and nascent, green-site or high-

holes and the rubble. She was told how the newly formed Teesside Development Corporation planned to divert the waters of the Tees, link the site by bridge to Stockton and build some 500 houses around a marine development. In two years she would see the place transformed.

The Prime Minister posed for pictures in the middle of this large empty space, presiding they might suggest—over a scene THE INDEPENDENT ARCHIVE

The Prime Minister was captured yesterday in an arresting image back to camera on a wasteland in

Middlesbrough. Peter Jenkins reports

ing. At the request of cameramen she stalked off alone into the middle distance, and back again. Then she began preaching in the wilderness. She preached the gospel of enterprise as the only means to salvation and regeneration. The North, she said, had been built by the enterprise of its people and that was how it would be rebuilt. There was no other way.

Harold Macmillan, who in the Thirties had sat for Stockton just across the river, had believed there was a "middle way". But not this Prime Minister. Where was the money, reporters wanted to know. You keep asking me facile questions," she complained.

Next stop was the Cadcam centre, a high-tech industrial estate. Cadcam stands for Computer-Aided Design, Computer-Aided Management. Here she preached her gospel of co-operation - between government, local authority

and private enterprise. Stnart Bell, the Middlesbrough MP, had shown up, not

coming. But she was wrong, if she thought she couldn't work with Labour councils. "Our councils are moderate, traditional Labour councils," he said. They were sensible people yet they were rate-capped and had no money to repair the deteriorating housing stock.

Listening to Mrs Thatcher extol the virtues of enterprise was one of its northern exemplars. This was John Hall, the Northumberland miner's son who built the great Metrocentre in Gateshead, the largest supermarket complex in Europe. Now he has bought Lord Londonderry's seat, Wynyard Hall, and the 5,000 acres that go with it. Here, in the cause of provincial generation, he plans to create what he calls a "centre of excellence". A business park will be provided with three golf courses, a five-star hotel, pheasant and pertridge shooting facilities. Then he'll sell off two-acre plots to businessmen to live like country gentlemen. "It's the life style they want," he said. "We're not peasants up here. You'll have to change

your bloody image of us." Round the corner some real people had congregated to greet the Prime Minister, the first she had encountered all day. Some cheered, some booed. A man with a megaphone called out: "Why has she rate-capped the council? Why won't she give us some money to build homes like the ones we have just seen? They are the answers we want from her."

Mrs Thatcher did not stop to tell him to please stop asking facile questions. She said nothing.

From The Independent', of desolation of her own mak- to protest but to welcome her Thursday 17 September 1987

HOW LONG does it take for a word to receive official recognition? For some time, those hired on a short-term contract to augment fall-time workers in an office have been in the habit of referring to these manacled and invariably lower-paid colleagues as

It is in particular usage

Words CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

permie, n.

increasingly high rates to puter systems come the

among those called in at avert disasters with comyear 2000.

As such, it now figures in an entertaining first novel. Stickleback, by John Mc-Cabe, whose plot goes wonky towards the end. His ears are closer to the ground than that of the compilers of that recent, avowedly vulgar new Oxford

dictionary. Will its rivals rush to fill this gap?

McGough: poet and plagiarist?

Jenny Lewis was pleased when Roger McGough praised her poem at a masterclass. Then she discovered

he had borrowed her idea. By Jasper Rees

arlier this year some children were chanting a poem in a school playground in west London. They couldn't quite remember the words, and were using the poem's rigid linguistic scaffolding to invent their own. It so happened that they were overheard by Sian Hughes, the Poetry Society's education development officer, who decided on the spot that a poem which so evidentily seduced schoolchildren would be an ideal teaching aid. She duly applied to Roger McGough, its author for permission to publish it in the National Poetry Day teacher's pack of comic verse.

McGough revealed that the poem, which was called "In Case of Fire", borrowed a technical innovation from a poet he met when teaching a course in Yorkshire. The poem is a simple rondeau in which the last word of each line is echoed in the next line until the poem loops back on itself to repeat the first line. The book-let was published and sent round to 30,000 schools at the end of last term. Under "In Case of Fire", which opened the collection, was the following acknowledgement: "This poem was inspired by Jenny Lewis, one of my students at Lumb Bank."

Last month, Jenny Lewis received her copy of the booklet, which is mailed to all members of the Poetry Society, and immediately wrote to Hughes to complain that her "idea and approach had been appropriated without proper acknowledge-ment". Hughes advised her that her best course was to vent her grievance in an article for Poetry News.

This she has done, in an issue published later this month. But who reads Poetry News, apart from poets? In the build-up to National Poetry Day on 8 October, its subscribers are hugely outoumbered by the schoolchildren all over the country currently beavering away at their own versions of "In Case of Fire". Despite the coy acknowledgement printed under the poem, they are unlikely to have seen the original "In Case of Fire", oor heard of its author. And yet without it, one of the most widely recited poems in McGough's entire career would never have been written. He admits he was inspired by it, but at what point does inspiration shade into plagiarism?

One thing we must make clear. This is oot another Jeffrey Archer scenario. Archer once judged a short story competition, only to duplicate many features of the winning entrant in a story of his own. Jenny Lewis granted McGough permission to publish his poem. "That was where I really made my big mistake," she says. "I thought, 'God, he must be a bit hard up for ideas'. But I was very flattered, because he was famous. My groupie tendency came out."

Lewis wrote "In Case of Fire" in 1994. She was 50 at the time, and had been describing herself as a poet for five or six years. "For one of the exercises, we were



IN CASE OF FIRE Roger McGough

In case of FIRE break glass in case of GLASS fill with water In case of WATER wear heavy boots In case of HEAVY BOOTS assume foetal position In case of FOETAL POSITION loosen clothing In case of CLOTHING avoid nudist beach In case of NUDIST BEACH keep sand out of eyes

In case of EYES close curtains In case of CURTAINS switch on light In case of LIGHT embrace truth In case of TRUTH spread word In case of WORD keep mum

In case of MUM open arms In case of ARMS lay down gun In case of GUN, fire In case of FIRE break glass

IN CASE OF FIRE Jenny Lewis

In case of fire, break glass In case of water, lift glass case of wine, lift several glasses

In case of lips, find their owner before kissing In case of kissing, do not attempt on dangerous curves In case of dangerous curves, avoid those belonging to your neighbour's

In case of your neighbour's wife, do not lay on a wet undercoat In case of a wet undercoat, hang out to dry with crooked politicians In case of crooked politicians, switch off power and ask them to leave

In case of leaving the house, please let the rats go first in case of rats, cover with hundreds and thousands, grill lightly and serve with Worcester Sauce In case of Worcester Sauce, note the unusual spelling making the

word appear different to what it seems In case of things appearing different to what they seem, stay very still

and do nothing In case of doing nothing about frequently reported faults, light blue touch paper and retire

In case of retiring, curl up with the mature person's guide to the Kama Sutra by a roaring fire

In case of fire, break glass.

in the town. "A lot of my students went and he read "In Case of Fire' without giving me a credit. So my students had all thought I'd based mine on his. They said, Asah, you cunning thing, we know where you got that idea now'. I was just so angry. just thought it was very off." McGough declined to be interviewed

for this article. But Lewis recalls that when she wrote to him expressing her dismay, he did phone back immediately. "He said, Tm sorry, Jenny luv, these things happen and there's nothing you can do about it. It would be impossible to give you a credit every time I read it'. I said 'Why?' rather weakly. He said, 'That's just the way it is'."

Poetry Society. "I don't think he should be expected to credit Jenny Lewis every time he reads it," says Sian Hughes. "When he goes into print he puts a tag on it." Hughes argues that, by the same process of in-tellectual hand-me-down, in time McGough will also forfeit ownership of the poem. "Pve just invited 30,000 schools to all copy it. They are not going to thank Roger McGough and Jenny Lewis every time they print the results. If one of them turns out to be the Poet Laureate in 30 years time and his first poem ever was the one he wrote at school based on Roger Mc-Gough's, does that mean he's stolen it?"

Jenny Lewis's concern remains that "In Case of Fire" has opened many more doors for McGough than it has for her "He hardly needs more doors opening." Lewis, however, is currently doing a BA in English at Oxford, with the intention of teaching creative writing at university level. "It's very important to me to establish my credibility as a poet, a teacher and an innovative writer," she says. "National Poetry Day is a huge marketing exercise, so all the poets that are in that book are going to have a huge boost. He probably thinks it's so petty that it's not worth even bothering about. But that's where the in-

other people's ideas as their own is only acceptable if the originator of the poem. or style of poem, is widely known themselves". Lewis is not widely known. Bot Sian Hughes feels that this is unfair on the better known poets, whose work is end-lessly cannibalised. "I don't know a single workshop exercise where we don't all sit down and steal somebody else's structure. That's bow you learn bow to do it. It just seems a bit mean that they're not allowed to do it back."

Lewis's one remaining hope is that she can enshrine her authorship of the innovation by naming it, in the same way that Edward Lear named the limerick and Dr icking the structure of the poem, she proreadings, and even broadcast on the poses to take the last and first syllables of ber first and last names, and therefore media poetry event one week in Dorch- call it a "ferlew". In the case of ferlew,

That also seems to be the view of the

equity comes in,"

asked to write a list poem. I couldn't think

of an inspiration and just before we had to go and read these poems I noticed the

fire regulations in the room: in case of fire,

break glass'. In 10 minutes, I quickly

wrote a poem. The assembled group

thought it was pretty funny and original."
It was included in a booklet brought out

at the end of the course, and subse-quently published in an anthology by Iron

"I thought no more about it," recalls

Lewis, "until a couple of months later I had

a letter from Roger McGough, including

a poem based on my poem, called In Case

of Fire' and using the same linguistic

structure but tightening it all up a bit. In

the letter, he said how much he had liked

and that he thought it was so clever and good, and would I mind if he published it?

I asked my publisher for advice and he said, Imitation is the sincerest form of flat-

tery. Why oot? But on condition that he

gives you a credit alongside the poem if

In the event, the poem was not pub-

lished. But it was widely recited at poetry

World Service. Lewis was leading a multi-

it's published'."

Press, Lewis's own publisher.

Her line is that "writers publishing

ester when McGough did a poetry reading beware any imitation.

Mother, don't come dancing

WHAT VIRGINIA SAYS

"You're just like sisters."

Gina should never have let her

mother in on her private life in the

single parent it must be difficult. If there's a dad at home be'd soon put

a stop to his wife going out clubbing every weekend. I think Gina should

explain to her friends that she

doesn't want her mum along to stop

them inviting her, too. That way she can hlame her friends for stopping

the social life, rather than having to broach the subject herself. Or maybe

she and her friends could organise

soo and I went out to dinner together and afterwards he first place, but as the daughter of a said he was going for a with some friends. He could see I looked a hit glum and suggested I go along with him. I refused three times, saying I had other things to do, and that he would want to talk to them on his own and that I'd be in the way (not very convincing excuses, I agree) until he finally said: "Oh, come on Mum, I know you'd like to come" and off I went. We only spent an bour hav-ing a drink, but oh the flattery of it! When you're middle-aged, to have

young people around you apparently interested in what you say and interested in telling you about their lives, is heady stuff. But it's not something to be done too often. Because then you break down the real relationship - that of mother and child.

There's nothing wrong in being chums with your children or kind of chums with your children's chums but at the bottom level you must remain a mum rather than a chum. Otherwise the children lose that relationship, which makes them sad, and gain a competitive sister; as Gina has found out.

My mother never came dancing with me but she certainly flirted with my boyfriends - she couldn't belp it - and I would sit by twiddling my thumbs as she pouted and threw back her head and laughed and flattered them, and asked them to come again. I remember feeling utterly sexless, all knees and knuckles, staring glumly into space until I could drag them away. "She's aw-

fully nice, your mum," my boyfriends would say. And, yes, they said:



VIRGINIA

something called "mum's night" when mums were asked along for a drink but not out clubbing. She could drop a hint to the mum of a friend that she'd like her to say to her mother how important it is mothers should not confuse their roles. But failing that, perhaps she should try telling her mother how she feels. It could easily be done in a flattering way. She could say how when her mum is with her she's so attractive it makes her feel second best. She could say she values her role as a mum and if she's always out with her and her friends it makes her feel she doesn't have a mum. She could say it makes ber feel strange when no one else's mum comes along. She could say it makes her feel as if she has no private life and it's

important for her to huild a life on her own now she's growing up. None of this is easy, but it's worth saying. Her mother will be hurt, hut as someone recently wisely pointed feels she has no out to me, so what's the big deal about being hurt? We all get hurt from time to time. Sometimes we have to hurt other people to stop get-What can she do? ting burt ourselves.

DILEMMAS



IRONSIDE

Gina's lived with her mother since she was ten. Her mum's lovely, but now Gina's 16 she's starting to borrow her clothes and comes out with her in the evenings. She's attractive and sometimes she flirts and gets drunk. People say they're like sisters. Gina

private life.

WHAT READERS SAY

Wiltshire

A surreptitious form of abuse Lovely mum but is she behaving like one? There comes a time when parents need to grow and separate from their children in order for the children to become adults. Why is a 30-something woman living out such a prolonged adolescence?

Clearly these are questions which Gina's mother can answer for herself. She can behave the way she does but I suggest she does it some-where else. Her behaviour is embarrassing, shaming and inhibiting her daughter. In fact it seems like a

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

Dear Virginia, I had a brief but intense rela-tionship with a girl which I ended rather abruptly two months ago when I got back with my ex-fiancée. I am getting a bit worried, though, as the phone often rings and there is no one at the other end, and I'm convinced it's my ex-girlfriend. Someone said they thought they spotted her car near here, as well and I'm worried that I'm being stalked. Should I call the police or do nothing? Yours sincerely, Len

Letters are welcome, and everyone who has a suggestion quoted will be sent a bouquet from Interflora Write to Virginia Ironside, 'The Independent', 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, fox 0171-293 2182. or e-moil: dilemmas@independent.co.uk – giving your postal address for sending a

rather surreptitions form of abuse. Gina needs a private life away from her mother and her mother oceds to let her have it. They can remain friends but why not give Gina some space oow rather than have her resentfully fighting for it later? NICHOLAS E GOUGH

Situations can be reversed, too Maybe Gina's mother is lonely. And Gina should remember it can happen the other way round too. My 30-year-old unmarried daughter lives with us and is unemployed and de-pressed and has few friends. Although we don't think it's very good for her, and often we'd prefer to be on our own, she comes with us everywhere all the time, even on holiday. But we feel we can't leave her on her own because she would be so locely. We try to encourage our daughter to make friends. Perhaps Gina could suggest her mother joins a dating agency to meet some people of her own age? CAROLINE

Mother should know her place Gina's mother sounds like hell. My own mum and I share clothes and make-up and often go shopping together but she'd never come out with me. I did once suggest it but she said if she came out there'd be no one at home to see I got back on time! She gets on with all my friends and they often bring her their problems and pop round for coffee, but after 8pm we live separate lives. She has her friends; I have mine. Gina should discourage her mum - or think of moving away as soon as she's able to. LYNN VERNON

Market Harborough

POETIC LICENCE

THE TIME IN GUIDE BY MARTIN NEWELL ILLUSTRATION: MICHAEL HEATH

Brixton jail is offering law-abiding members of the public a night in the cells for £50. Designed as part of a campaign to inform the public what goes on inside prison, the stay offers "guests" a 10pm lock-up, a 6.30am wake-up call and breakfast. followed by a 7.30am release



Yours for fifty sovs, chief. A night in Brixton jail The smells, the sounds The eye at the door The footsteps and the pail The liquid cosh The nervous wash A tin of dried up snout Those bits of Brit-pop London Not featured in Time Out

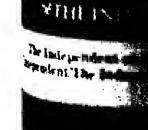
An edifice distinguished By wire, and steel and stone Which may have passed As modish When Prinny took the throne

A swinging night on A-wing The sobbing, cells away

The moonlight And the mucus It gets you in that way An overtone of cabbage An undertone of bin In dingy light An early night As featured in "Time In" And then... An act of comfort To shake the lower bunk Perhaps a little nightcap? or ragged wrap of junk

A pallor and a parcel Then no-one at the gate "Twelve hours inside," The tourist cried. "The bitch! She swore she'd wait"

has long been







Tyranny of the snappers

Forcing us to stand unnaturally near each other and then shout cheerily in unison - who could be worse than the family photographer? By Ann Treneman

once met a woman named Mary Kaye Lee who spent a great deal of time and effort photographing a teddy bear named Harvey. This, evi-dently, is not considered all that strange a thing to do in certain circles. Mary Kave even had a howto column on the subject in a teddy bear magazine published in deepest Tonbridge. Harvey was a very photo-genic kind of bear, she explained, as we flipped through the "family" album chronicling their trip on board the Orient Express.

Harv, it must be said, does not look all that thrilled. In fact, his expression remains unchanged throughout the trip. I am sure he is now secretly plotting a way to get Boots to excise him altogether. Now, I know that teddy bears are not real. but I do know how he feels. My idea of a good family photo is one without any humans at all. I have never achieved this - though Boots may now have provided the way forward - because everyone else in my extended family is addicted to taking photographs of one another at every

No event, no meal, no sunset, no motorway service station is too insignificant to chronicle. In this world, all of life is measured in Kodak moments, every one of which is a potential memory to treasure. Or not, as the case inevitably is. This is fam-

ily photo fetish syndrome at its shout "Cheese!" and, if we are lucky, worst and Harv and I are not the only victims. "Yes, isn't it terrible?" says a someone to whom I mention the subject. "There are religious that won't have their picture taken because they believe they are unfit images, or something. I think that's great. They've released themselves

from the tyranny of the photo!"

It is not something I can talk to

No event, no meal, no motorway service station is too insignificant. All of life is measured in Kodak moments

my mother about. That is because she is too busy shouting "Cheese!" at any lens that looks friendly. Do you recognise this scene? "Say cheese!" shouts someone I am related to in yet another restaurant. We are gathered in what I now think of as the Cheese Position. This is when we all lean forward, elbows on table and faces dangerously close to the debris that was our meal. We all then do you think you have escaped, just wait graphs," says social psychologist

the flash goes off, blinding everyone else. If we are unlucky the flash fails. This is a trigger for the family to lined up again - with great flapping of arms and instructions to "Lean in closer!" - and we repeat the "Cheese!" ritual. Only then does the picture actually get taken.

But it is not over yet. This is because we have to do it all again to fulfil the universal rule that one photo is never enough and that the second photo must include the person who took the first photo. Usually a stranger is approached. This can be the waitress or even another diner. In either case, inevitably, the camera does not work. Cue repeat of "Cheesel" scene combined with "flash doesn't work" shouting scene. Finally, it is finished and then everyone beams at each other and chatters away as if we were G7 leaders posing in front of the Alps.

But why? My first thought was that this the syndrome must be genetic because, well, almost everything is these days. It's certainly true in my family's case. My grandfather was obsessed and there is at least one photograph of every meal he ever ate involving more than two people. My mother has collected a roomful of the things and now my sisters are succumbing. By the way, if



Just say cheese! There is no humiliation too small for an obsessive family photographer to impose on his victim John Lawrence

until you hit 40. That is when psychologists say that most of us start to believe that we are going to die one day and that, in the meantime, it couldn't hurt to compile some evidence of our existence. Certainly, I notice that my sister, who has just turned 40, has now started accosting strangers on near deserted beaches. "Can you take our photo?" she asks a nerson who is obviously trying to have a nervous breakdown with a little quiet dignity. "Of course not," they lie (cue "Cheese!" scene).

A nightmare and, evidently, one that will never end. "Clearly you can either be the kind of family which lives or the kind which takes photo-

Halla Beloff from Edinburgh, Her theory is that people can take pictures in order to control a situation. "It can be very oppressive," she says. I think "very" might be putting it mildly. The experienced photo controi freak can turn the whole thing into a full-time occupation that dominates every minute of the day. But not of course, if they forget the camera. That's why they hyperventilate if the thing gets left behind. "Oh no! We'll have to go back!" they cry. "Why?" you ask. "Because we

But why would anyone want to remember a day dominated by a person taking lots of pictures while giving a running commentary on how

will want to remember this!"

many frames are left. Upon picking holds all the photos that were not the photos up, the controller will then edit out the ones that make him or her look bad. Of course, the ones that make you look like a red-eyed muthese to the album. tant drunk having a bad hair life are Or why not try a spot of reminiskept in and sometimes even exclaimed over ("Not one of your

photographs can enter the album.
Thus is family history made. Within a relatively brief period of time, the family starts to believe the album version of history. The first way to subvert this is to get Boots to take all the people out. But if you cannot get your hands on the neg-atives per se, find the cupboard that

best!"). The ritual must be finished

off by the controller selecting which

chosen and in which everyone looks like aliens and/or Darwin rejects. Then secretly start to repatriate

cence therapy? I discover this delightful idea from Simon Biggs, a reader in social gerontology at Keele University who did his PhD on the related subject of videos. Evidently you use a photograph to get people talking about what really happened that day. Biggs says that they use this a lot when trying to cut through the official propaganda, Dangerous stuff, but then families are full of that, Especially when they are addicted

Troubled times for the Gazza of the green

Football has long been known for its bad boys. But bowls? Down in Torquay they've never seen anything like Griff Sanders. By Alex Hayes

there has Torquay witnessed drama on this scale. Last week, the Devon County Bowls Association handed Griff Sanders, the self-professed "bad-boy of bowling", an unprecedented 10-year ban from the sport for denouncing a senior county official as a "tosser". And you thought bowls was boring.

The decision is causing quite a stir in Torquay. "Every game has a code of conduct, and he has undeniably broken that code," admits Alan Horwell, President of he doesn't like it because he's jealous." the local Kings Bowling Club in Torquay. "Perhaps he needed to have a stick waved at him to be brought back into line. But 10 years? Most bowls players around here think the ban is far too draconian. He's hardly a monster.

As I sit in Sanders's bed-sit sipping a cup of tea, I fail to detect any wickedness in the man. With long hair, a scruffy appearance and a thick Devon accent, he may not look snooker's really boring to watch. Well, it's and sound like the archetypal bowls playand sound like the archetypal bowls player, but then again who would want to?

"Nah, I'm not a monster," he says. "He IMr Smerdon, the secretary of the Devon County Bowling Association] doesn't like

Tot since a gentleman by the name me. He's made that clear and I've got no of Basil Fawity ran a guest house power over the man. I called him a tosser, and I'm proud of the thing I said. I really wanted to let him know what he is."

How does such a sedate game manage to arouse such passions? "I should be in Kuala Lumpur now, playing in the Com-monwealth Games. Not only that, but I should have been playing for England years ago. Smerdon is the Devon secretary. If I don't get picked for Devon, I can't play for England. Because I'm a bit rebellious and I've got long hair and always say my bit,

Sanders started playing bowls with his grandparents when he was 11. By the time he was 16, he was regularly beating far more experienced and senior players. "It's bound to upset them. Think about it. I'm not just winning. I'm entertaining as well. Years ago, most people would watch snooker because Alex Higgins and Jimmy White were characters and that. Otherwise. that if I was on TV, even if I lost the first round, the sponsors would want me back. I'm unique. I've been told that."

Sanders has described himself as the Griff Sanders (front) has a style all his own



Susannah Binney green to spoil their street cred sort of thing.

John McEnroe of bowling. But we're talking bowls here; it's hardly pulse-racing stuff, is it? Besides, if you hurled a bowl ing ball at the ground in rage you'd just break your foot. "Look," says the Gazza of the green, "bowls is crap to watch but when you start playing, it becomes really addictive. It's like golf: you end up playing against yourself. You get a wood close to the jack, and you just want to get the next wood even closer."

"If you don't believe me, let's go and have a game." We are on the local green ready for battle. As I misjudge the distance and angle of my first delivery, I try to divert his, and the onlookers', attention with a question. "Why is it that so few young people play, and even fewer would want to associate themselves with the game?"

"That's not true," replies Sanders. "More and more kids are playing. I mean, I'm the kind of guy to raise the profile of the sport and encourage different people to play. Once they try it, they're hooked."

"Really?" I casually retrieve my wood from the adjacent green. "Yeah," he says. "T've took gangsters out that I know who wouldn't dream of going near a bowling

But after a game, they're begging me to

take them down again."

Torquay's meanest gangsters playing bowls. Mr Tarantino should know about this. So is Griff Sanders entirely blameless for his current predicament?

"No, it's true, I've had warnings in the past. Like the time I said 'fuck' for playing a bad shot and a woman complained. Or when I pretended to be drunk during a tournament - I was only joking though. Anyway, I apologised to the committee after the incident. But as far as calling John Smerdon a tosser, though, there's no way on this earth that I'm going to say sorry."

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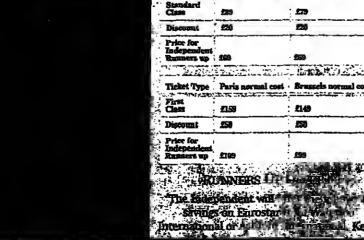
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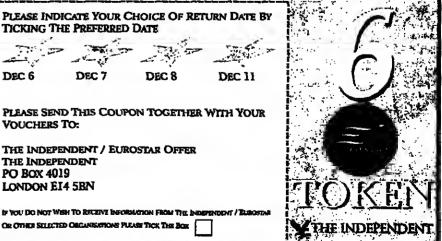


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Something funny's going on

Where is the new generation of female stand-up comics? Probably backstage - and not telling the jokes, but organising them. They are now surviving, even thriving, in the macho business of comedy by becoming men's managers. By Veronica Lee

was a Perrier Comedy Award judge last month and sat through dozens of acts from the inspired to the dire. Depressingly, there wasn't a single female up for serious conideration in either the main GAiwards, or even among the newoldomers. Where are the Jo Brands, coshe Jenny Eclairs and the Caroline dayhernes of the current stand-up greneration, who lift the lid on the felasuale psyche or offer an alternative ruto male comics talking about them-

'elves? But perhaps I was looking blen the wrong place for comedic tal-simit. Remarkably, of the 10 acts on embe two shortlists, eight are maninteged by women. While women may Wose taking a rest from performing wohere is no shortage of them behind

un. Not long ago, one would have exected the shortlists to be dominated y acts managed by Avalon or Stone JoRanger, two high-profile, highly visyorble comedy management/promotion anlompanies run by go-getting young nen. But this year the distaff side

halppears to have taken over. Co Dawn Sedgwick is manager of parerrier winner Tommy Tiernan, defason Byrne and Ardal O'Hanlon. rarier background is in television. a h'iernan describes her as "a safe pair

if hands", which is perhaps reflectsupd in her slightly motherly mien. She taitays: "It's a growing area for women wand where they are taken seriousingy. The entertainment industry is still mcnale-dominated, but there is now a wigeneration who have moved on to a ionigh level and I hope it will have a menock-on effect in performing."

cel But why has a generation of women comics been lost? "Sadly," Blahe says, "lot of women feel that they nave to do bog-standard 'women's' feenaterial, which often doesn't work, al airly or unfairly. If a woman does bestuff about sanitary products people other turned off, but a man talking diabout sex or football is fine. It's hard

rom a performer's point of view in owhat she has to come up with someinching very different to make an imwoact because they are compared mfavourably with men. And stand-.p is tough - you really have to show your mettle.

Vivienne Smith, the vivacious ind forthright ex-publicity agent or the Gilded Balloon in Edinburgh and now manager of Perrier nomi-IT Marcus Brigstock, has a more pro-

nee Ed Byrne, Michael Smiley and misaic explanation for the lack of d young female talent. "Women are huearly age, so I guess they're offlearn- en her. Women are emotionally frail sting to be lawyers and doctors rather about it."

an





stand-up turned TV personality; above, 1995 Perrier winner Jenny Eclair, right, Vivienne Smith and Dawn Sedgwick - respectively agent and manager on the comedy circuit Neville Elder/ UPPA/ SDR

than spending time in smoky clubs. But it's true that a lot of young guys like the rock'n'roll image of comedy today, and they certainly have more role models for getting up and performing." The 1995 Perrier winner Jenny Eclair believes that the world of stand-up, with its aggressively drink-sodden, heckling audiences, is so antithetical to women that she does not wonder that so few want to do it. "I always say that women have more sense." she says. "It's a vaguely masochistic thing to do."

But she wishes that women had more staying power, or worked harder to get it right. "There's a generation of women coming up to 30 who are missing or who have simply given up. I met one recently who had dropped out and I asked her why. She said, 'My boyfriend left me and I comout cobe. I como nave



She puts this down to differences in the male and female psyche. "Men start practising being funny early on - it's the way parents treat them. With girls, it's Doesn't she look pretty'. Men don't communicate with each other with any depth -

instead. Women share secrets." Eclair thinks the only way a roman can survive in such a tough business is by assuming a stage persona vastly different to her own. So different is the off-duly Eclair from the offstage one that she has never allowed her partner, father of their young daughter, to see her live act. Eclair says the relationship would be over if he saw her vulgar, foulmouthed, horny creation in full flow.

Vivlenne Smith is not convinced by the assumed persona argument. Donna McPhail for a start. But

a stage persona? Otherwise, it's just Joe Bloggs making an after-dinner speech at the Rotary chib."

But it is true that more female stand-ups than men do "acts" rather than "turns" as themselves. Caroline Aherne and Brenda Gilhooley they try to make each other laugh were jobbing stand-ups till they became, respectively. Mrs Merton and Gayle Tuesday, and both shot to television fame overnight.

Smith concedes that comedy is largely a macho world: "As much as any middle-class sport can be considered macho," she says drily. "It is a male-dominated and competitive business but that's not confined to comedy. I don't know to whose benefit that kind of approach is. I believe you are only as good as your clients. and you should try to do your work with a certain amount of decorum

wick says, "Most of our comedians are male and we can offer a female perspective on their material." And Lisa White, of comedy agents Off The Kerb, was responsible for discovering two truly original talents to come through this year - Perrier nominee Peter Kay and the short-listed newcomer Paul Foot, both of

whom have an appeal to female audiences that may have been lost on those managers who line up one ladfish comic after another with beer, footy and fart jokes. Women in comedy management

tend to work with smaller teams. For Vivienne Smith this is a deliberate policy formed from previous experience. "When I worked in a large management company the focus wasn't there. It was a numbers game - how much money has that Women in management can also shove them aside and concentrate don't all performers have to adopt offer a broader view. As Dawn Sedg- on this one who's doing really well

at the moment." Dawn Sedgwick, too, believes comedy manage should be client-centred. "We have nel 4, organisers of newcomers a strong, small clientele because we take the long view of their careers and work them hard across the board, to encourage them as writers and TV performers in addition to doing stand-up. I think the larger companies are perhaps more interested in getting their own name forward rather than their artists'. We don't have that ego working."

From a purely financial point of view too, a quiet but effective management beavering quietly away on comics' behalf pays other rewards. As one experienced Edinburgh observer put it: "You couldn't move up there without seeing an Avalon or You can bet every penny of that

But while we can appland the meantime, though, look for the work female managements are

on the women comics front. Chanaward So You Think You're Funny?, were delighted by the strong showing of young women stand-ups in this year's competition and expect those such as Caroline Quinlan, Nadine Leonard and Sheba Moserrat to reach the mainstream within a couple of years.

Eclair thinks a challenge lies ahead. "There is a modern wave of comedy that is surreal, whereas women tend to be emotional gutspillers and that sort of thing is now considered old hat, too Eighties. It's going to be interesting to see if the new generation of young female comics are going to get away from Stone Ranger logo, bag or poster. their genitalia and their age and their looks and compete with the

women backstage rather than on it.



THE WEST END HAS DARED TO BE DANGEROUS: Superlatives have risen to flood-level' DANA RIGG .: THE MOST LIARING AND MAGNIFICENT Performangeof her Career' Jonathan Kent's powerful and pulverising' production phèdre Maria Bjornson's designs' 'Racine's masterpiece' Ted Hughes' new version continually explodes with emotion' GREATLY DIGNIFIES T ROLL ON, BRITANN

Red is the colour, bloodless the sound

REPUBLICA'S SAFFRON has courted more than her fair share of controversy, though until recently it has been for little more than her hurid hairdo. Last year, she advised Janet Jackson to "Ave a word with yourself, love" after she appeared on stage with red streaks in her hair, while Lene from Scandinavian pop sensation Aqua was similarly cut down to size after sporting a blood-red barnet.

To be fair, Republica have certainly made it musically in the US, providing a riotous

ties and even getting played on Baywatch from time-to-time. But they have found it harder to sustain a successful pop presence on these shores. The London trio first appeared late in 1996, their rousing anthem, "Ready To Go", having a degree of success, but were soon eclipsed by the success of their smarter counterparts, Garbage. Other jarringly similar singles have come and gone, but to no great effect.

It is Saffron's cockney brass, more than anything else, that has sustained her flourishing media persona,

REPUBLICA DINGWALLS LONDON having secured her a stream

of soundbites in the style bibles and regular slots on pop discussion programmes. While the girls bill and coo over her luscious locks, the boys slaver at her glittering eyes, tight trousers and sex-

And the boys were certainly out in force at last night's

packed the front, crumbling submissively under Saffron's steely gaze. The band opened with the raucous "Drop Dead Gorgeous" that had the lads wailing inspely and frothing at the mouth. This was later followed by the new single "From Rush Hour With Love", a pouty, shouty, power-pop number that is bursting with adolescent attitude, though

bears little relation to the film upon which it is based. While Republica are in pos-

stage presence, the thrill factor is short-lived as the band's to sustain a career. limited repertoire soon became apparent. Though their sing-a-long melodies are instantly captivating and have you jiggling about for the first few bars, closer inspection reveals grating lyrics and clichéd choruses that a gaggle of love-sick sixth-formers might have composed.

Eager to please, each track contains the requisite amount A version of this review opof chart-friendly pop, clattering guitars and penetrating session of an irresistible allure Siouxsie Sioux vocals -

show. Row upon row of sweaty, and a magnificently feisty enough to court teenage hormone-addled disciples stage presence, the thrill fac-musos, but sadly not enough musos, but sadly not enough

Republica have a handful of amiable, value-for-money singles that fuse synthesised post-punk rock with shamelessly trite indie pop, but they are ultimately uninspiring And while the music might not last the course, Saffron, at least, can look forward to a

peared in later editions of

Beat generation

ONCE, CYPRESS HILL stood at the crossroads - at that point where rock and rap entwine with the hair-trigger life of LA's ghetto. On their landmark album, Black Sunday (1993), the slow, booming beats of their Italian-American mastermind, DJ Muggs, ushered in a new sound for hip-hop, and a new audience: white rock fans. They took underground rap into the mainstream and became the

fastest-selling rappers ever. But in hip-hop, reputations are made to be broken. Cypress Hill's last album, Cypress Hill III: Temple of Boom, made little impact. Their one-time collaborator, the RZA, and his Wu-Tang Clan have usurped them, with a spartan, speeding sound that makes Black Sunday sound sluggish. The forthcoming Cypress Hill IV addresses the problem, Muggs sharpening his sound and lead rapper B-Real spraying boasts till they cannot be borne.

But can such intense inven-

CYPRESS HILL THE ASTORIA LONDON

Cypress Hill start their attempt, miraculously for a rap hand, at exactly the appointed hour. Muggs is, as usual, nowhere to be seen. It's left to B-Real to bring them to life, and he seems up for the challenge.

To the encouragement of an almost all-white crowd, he leads the band through a set which emphasises their bloodsoaked side, Black Sunday's "Ain't Goin' Out Like That" slamming into new song,

"Checkmate". B-Real's own good humour is never far away, whether mock-shocked at a suggestion that the crowd might prefer to be at home, "watching Mr Bean or some shit", or ritually asking for a toke. He's showered with offerings. He picks one, and exhales into the dark, tion be brought to the stage? Robert Mitchum cool. It's in

such moments that Cypress Hill instil the warmth on which live hip-hop thrives.

But the qualities that make their new work effective are not so easily achieved. B-Real's raps shoot by so fast they can't be heard, and the chasm in intent between, say, the stoner reverie, "Insane in the Brain", and the brutal "Steel Magnolia"

is flattened. Muggs's trademark sirens are mere embellishment, and the night is soon reduced to hiphop's most basic component the beat, thumped with chestrattling force.

As at any rock show, it's all half the crowd want. But when Cypress Hill encore with the sound of guitars (from the album's "Lightning Strikes"), you pine again for the layers that have been lost. The band leave after only an hour. Time enough for a dance. Not nearly enough time, or space, for the more complex pleasures they're capable of

Passion underplayed

ANGELA HEWITT is what you might call a highly groomed pianist, renowned for her gleaming precise playing of Bach she has just released her recording of the first book of the 48 Preludes and Fugues. Opening her Wigmore recital

on Friday with four pairs of these - the A flat major and its equivalent minor, and the A major and minor, she uncharacteristically suffered some small memory lapses, possibly triggered by a spate of unduly noisy coughing in the audience. There were no more accidents in a splendid choice of programme, yet Hewitt never quite overcame an element of selfconsciousness. Nor could we forget her rather startling image, armoured, rather than dressed, in a stunning outfit of shimmering gold that seemed to have taken its inspiration from one of the neighbouring

super-kitsch furnishing stores. There was nothing very alarming about Hewitt's treatCLASSICAL ANGELA HEWITT WIGMORE HALL

G minor Sonata. She had brought in a Bosendorfer lighter in tone than a Steinway and well-suited to the generous acoustic of this hall - but she didn't always draw an ideally full sound from it. Not only was ber left hand underbalanced in strong passages, particularly in the flamboyant scherzo, but her soft playing, though certainly delicate, was also a bit un-

dernourished. She also had a distinct tendency to be coy at Hewitt played it very well, pasthe beginning and ending of a phrase and it seemed a puzzling affectation to start the prestissimo coda of the finale hesitantly, as if searching for something in the dark.

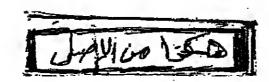
One of Hewitt's specialities is Messiaen, and after the interval she played six of his early Preludes. Her cool trans-NICK HASTED | ment of Schumann's fiery parent delicacy seemed ideal for

the rainbow-like chord clusters of "Les sons impalpables du rêve", but however soft some of the other pieces were meant to be, I still wished for more depth in the piano sound and greater projection. When called upon to be dramatic, in the punchy opening of "Un re-

flet dans le vent", she was fine. She was also razor-sharp in the stern admonitions of Liszt's Dante Sonata, nor ineffective in the way she opened the whirlwind section in smoky obscurity. But there's no substitute for a performance of this visionary work that is overwhelming and all-consuming, and though sionate abandon is not part of her artistic make-up.

Surprisingly, the thing I enjoyed best in the whole evening was her third and final encore, a simple transcription of Richard Strauss's song "Morgen!", in which she spun out an exquisitely protracted singing line to perfection.

ADRIAN JACK





I am art, therefore I am

Gavin Turk doesn't need to look far to find a fitting subject for his art. What better than ... Gavin Turk. Self-congratulatory nonsense, or does the Brit-pack star actually have something to say? By Judith Palmer

avin Turk was no doubt the kind of boy who spent his adolescence redrafting his signaoutside of his pencil case, rough book, duffel bag, his arm or any other available surface.

The years weren't wasted: he's perfected a very nice signature. Well, it's a rather nice name, Gavin Turk. In fact, young Turk's finest asset is probably his name. And how fully he capitalises on it. Most artists sion their work. Turk just signs his name, and it is the work.

Ever obsessed with the cult of self, Turk's final year show at the Royal College of Art consisted of an empty sculpture studio, hearing a discrete circular blue plaque with the words "Gavin Turk Sculptor worked here, 1989-1991" on it. College Rector Jocelyn Stevens with-held his degree; and the young British art-world fell at his feet.

Turk's new solo exhibition at the South London Gallery, "The Stuff Show", sticks with his favourite topic: Gavin Turk, "Narcissistic, or what?" muttered every punter, bang

on cue, as they entered the space. There's a helpful quote from fellow British artist Sam Taylor-Wood outside, for anyone who makes the same mistake. "Gavin is special because be is totally inseparable from his work - but at the same time it's not narcissistic or even like self-portraiture," she says. "It's so bizarre that the work is about him, yet at the same time it could be about somebody else called Gavin Turk, It's like

the portrait of an anonymous man." With guff like that in your defence, it's no wonder Turk attracts a routinely hostile response. A shame, as Turk's work is actually fairly like-



able. Dominating the show is a lifesize wax work self portrait - within a vitrine - of Turk as Marat, dead in his bath. It is a close pastiche of David's 1793 painting of the assas-sinated French revolutionary via the Madame Tussand's chamber of horrors. Turk lies slumped and turbaned, swathed in sheet and sacking, beneath a baize-covered board in a modern tapless fibreglass bathtub, poised on chequer-board lino. Missing from the original however, are the wound and bloodied water, Marat's quill and papers, so that the tableau is deliberately

stripped of meaning. "Never let your brushwork show," David famously instructed his pupils, but Turk's Marat comes complete with raggedy joins, blanc-mangey nipples, snipped lashes and eyebrows and chest-hair scattered from clippings off the barber's floor. Like Hirst'a taxidermy, Turk's waxwork is slovenly up close, but the general effect is striking.

Following on from his degreeshow plaque, which presented his career as if it were already over, The Death of Marat underlines Turk's assertion that "life only acquires

An interesting choice of alter ego. Marat – the venerated radical who fell from fickle public favour. His body was committed to the Pantheon with full public honours, then cast out 15 months later amid popular execration. There also is a scabrous private joke at play. Marat, of course, took to his bath as relief from a nasty skin disease contracted while hiding in the Parisian sewers, while Turk'a self-portraits seem to reveal the scaly, desiccated hands of an artist

who has spent too much time dab-

bling with toxic resins.

The other wax-work on display, Burn, stands directly on the floor, positioned as if it had shuffled in off the street. Burn is Turk as a gummyeyed derelict - a recreation of the artist's bleary entrance stunt to the Royal Academy's private viewing of Sensation - in piss-stained trousers and newspaper-wrapped feet. A glutton for the self-referential, Burn. strikes the same pose as his Sensation wax-work Pop with Turk dressed as Sid Vicious posing as Warhol's Elvis; and to crown it all Oi!, a huge photo triptych of Turk dressed as a burn, points limply down at Burn while Burn peers at yet. another photo self-portrait.

They are everywhere. A hig freshfaced photo head with eyes closed in Portrait of Something that I'll Never Really See, then a light-box mounted portrait with flaky khaki mnd-pack, smirking demonically like Grant Mitchell in Apocalypse Now in his A Man Like Mr Kurtz. It makes quite an impact as it's the only Turk here with its eyelids open.

They are obviously intended as expressions of banality, but most of ing up the free Becks. the cover versions still don't do much: a Magritte-style portrait in a suit with an egg for a head; a Jasper meaning and shape through death". Johns-type fleecy DIY paint-roller SES (0171-703 6120) to 18 Oct

cast in bronze, a hig Manzoni egg in a packing case, a Duchampian sanitary-ware font signed Gavin Turk instead of Armitage Shanks.

Ironically, the most pleasing works are those neat, confident, well-practised signatures, as omnipresent as a global corporate brand name. One Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty Four Eggs has tightly-packed rows of empty eggshells, gived like ping-pong balls undulating across canvas; with his shadowy autograph tidily nibbled out across their surface. Opposite, more white on white, looking like an embossed deep-pile fancy-hotel bath-mat is Constellation with nearly four metres of teeny white polyester beads signed in elegant relief.

Above it all, mounted on tasteful neo-classical roundels are two big blobs of chewing gum, shiny smears of yellowy resin, thumbed onto the walls (PK1 & PK2). A yebbish mark of disrespect to his own show, that spat-out gum might as well be Turk's official acknowledgement of the guiding forces of Brit-pack art: the throwaway, and frandulent, emptiness and groundless ego.

Amid all this brazen hugenes you could easily miss one drab little photo, Drouste Effect 98, a panoramic 360 degree shot of the gallery, with every exhibit wrapped in brown drapes. This is the latest chapter in Turk's ambitious selfmythology, for the artist apparently opted to leave his show covered throughout the private viewing. He does, after all, know one thing about young British art - what really matters is being seen and soak-

Gavin Turk, The Stuff Show, South London Gallery, 65 Peckham Rd



Gavin Turk's 'Marat' wax figure comes complete with blancmangey nipples, and body-hair straight from the barber's floor Inset, Turk's self-portrait John Mason (main photo) /Stephen White

Ewan McGregor: his life and slender times

ABOUT A year ago, I wrote up an interview for publication in The Big Issue magazine. The article amassed precisely two pieces of feedback. The first was an Outraged-of Oldham type letter complaining that the picture of Ewan McGregor smoking a Mariboro on the cover set a terrible example to the youth of Britain. The second was a phone-call from André Deutsch publishers asking if I'd be interested in writing McGregor's biography. All things considered, it was a bet-

ter response than normal. Initially, though, the second reaction troubled me rather more than the first. Because celebrity biogs are weird. Traditionally these 20th-century phenomena tend to occupy a polarised and schizophrenic landscape. They are either gushing hagiographies or poisonous Kitty Kelley-ish muck-rakers. Added to this, a book about Ewan McGregor posed an extra hurdle. At the time of Deutsch's call, the Trainspotting star was all of 26 years of age: a middle-class Scotsman with an unremarkable past and a swift crop of good pictures to his name. Note to prospective authors: one cure for any arrogance in being handed a book deal is the knowledge that its sub-

A famous publisher has asked you to write a biography of the star of *Trainspotting*. First, a bit of self-congratulation is in order, then you have to write the bloody thing. And quick. By Xan Brooks

ject is younger, richer and immeasurably better looking than you. There were other, more pressing problems. Without the luxury of an

agent, I had to wrangle for money myself (although knowing there was no agent to skim 10 per cent off the top was some consolation). I also had to negotiate the direction Deutsch's book should take. One possible way around McGregor's relative lack of life, I reckoned, was to use him as a conduit; the symbol for some emergent renaissance in the British film industry in general. The publishers were on for this. The man himself was not. Smugly confident that McGregor would consent to a few further interviews, I was brought up short when he wired back that "when there's a book to be written I'll write it myself". In that instant, Choose Life (the publisher's suggested title) hopped from prospective authorised biography to actual unauthorised biography, and I was forced to scour about for information.



Ewan McGregor, reluctant subject

a hopefully casual, chewing-the-fat a nopemby casual, chewing the like tone; "so yeah, what was it like working with Ewan McGregor?" Her stalled, startled look (and in numerous others like her) is an abiding image of that manic time.

The last 11 months have been a bit of a blur. What do you do when you have between January and April to write 60,000 words on a 26-yearold who isn't co-operating with the project? Well, to be honest, you wing it. You interview everyone you can grab hold of, you phinder your own archives, you contextualise as best you can and yes, you use cuttings; those shameful, second-hand goods that all biographers fall back on. And

Fortunately, I had a stockpile of old

interviews, while my regular film ed-

itor job at The Big Issue gave me ac-

cess to various actors and directors

who had some previous connection

with McGregor This was gratuitous

moonlighting. Discussing her new and relevant film, The Honging

Garden, with Shallow Grave actress

Kerry Fox, I abruptly veered off with

then you try to fit them all together In some sort of order. In a very short period of time, praying all the while that it makes some sort of sense, that it sheds some light on the subject matter Don't get me wrong. Writing still doesn't feel like a proper job. Compared with, say, working the deep-fat frier or resurfacing the A40, it's a doddle. But on this occasion it flirted with being just a tad too much of a good thing.

Compared with regular journal-ism, the publishing world is viewed as a soulful and sanctified realm; a haven for the genuine artist. Certainly, the people working there seem a lot more civilised - the editors, designers and publicists I worked with at André Deutsch all proved endlessly more grounded, informed and tolerant than your average newspaper or magazine type. But in the end, the two disciplines are pretty similar. The same time imperative, the same commercial intent, the same dash to hit the shelves before the topic turns

cold. And at the end of the day. Choose Life is just an extended piece of journalism. It profiles an upand coming personality and maps out a fledgling scene. Its contemporariness, its sense of a story that's still running is both its weakness and its strength. Thus far the book has had what is known in the trade as a "mixed reception". The film magazines have slagged it, other publications think it's fine.

Inevitably, my own feelings are in conflict. I'm proud that I did the book and pleased with a lot of the stuff inside. At the same time, I regard Choose Life much as I imagine a parent must regard a well-meaning but slightly slow and fragile offspring. They're an antonomous entity on the one hand; a worrying mirror of their creator on the other.

You raise them as best you can and then gaze anxiously through the fence as the other lads mill around it in the playground, scrutinising it and prodding for its weakness. You pray it will be all right. Secretly, you hope that the next kid has a bit more

Choose Life: Ewan McGregor and the British Film Revival', is published by André Deutsch, £9.99

Two geniuses go 'phut' in Paris

"GOSH, YOU take a couple of geniuses and put them in the same room and POW!" exclaims an old barfly in Picasso at the Lapin Agile, a play by the movie star, Steve Martin, which is now receiving its European premiere at the West Yorkshire Playhouse.

Well, "pow!" might describe the dramatic effect created when Terry Johnson brought Freud into collision with Salvador Dali in Hysteria or when, in Insignificance, he holed up those two 20th century icons, Einstein and Marilyn Monroe, in the same Manhattan hotel room where she kindly demonstrated to its propounder the theory of relativity. "Phut," though, would be a better way of characterising what happens here when Steve Martin steers Kinstein and Picasso into a Paris bar - despite the fact that, towards the end, there's an explosion which hlasts in a time-travelling Elvis

The piece is set in 1904 at the brink of the century our youthful

THEATRE PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE LEEDS

geniuses were, in their respective fields, to dominate. The bar regulars have a go at predicting what the next hundred years will bring. Their forecasts are either uncamily prescient and very American ("By the end of the century, smoking in restaurants will be banned") or tastelessly accurate ("The city of Hiroshima will be completely modernised"), or spectacularly wrong, or dumb-blonde ditzy ("A voyo will be a wonderful thing to play with and a terrible thing to be").

That gives you an idea of the tone to which this play keeps reverting - a facile jokiness which depends upon the lazy superiority of hindsight. When, for example, Brian Shelley's likeably gentle Einstein arrives at the bar, another character

fails to recognise him. "I'm not my- and Lenin, manages to be a hundred self today," he apologises, and muss-es his combed hair to the trademark mad-scientist look. He's already the icon he was yet to become.

As for the promised battle of wits, it'a waged very weakly and in fits and starts because Martin's script has too short an attention span to pursue any topic with persistence. "For me," declares Ben Walden's

Picasso, sneering at science, "the shortest distance between two points is not a straight line." "Likewise." counters Einstein.

It's a neat, if contrived, turn, but the piece fails to take you all that much further into the scientists' ideas and their imaginative implications. Gag-ridden, it also has worrying patches of straight-faced uplift and movie-speak.

"So you say that you, too, dream the impossible and bring it into effect," marvels Picasso, recognising a creative kinship across the disciplines. Tom Stoppard's Tropesties with its conjunction of Joyce, Tzara

times funcier than this, while also sustaining serious debate about the relationship between art and

The most enjoyable character in Randall Arney's attractively acted production is the bumptious little self-deluded charlatan, Schmendiman (Andrew Nyman) who is convinced he is going to become one of the century's household names because of the potty "inflexible and very brittle building material" he has invented. Martin has him conceitedly deprecating the two real future giants and coming up, as if inspired, with tired old traditional ideas saying "cheese" for photographs, putting dunces in pointy hats - that he feels will further seal his bid for

An amusing lesson in the parochialism of self-regard, the character refreshes a play you don't need to be Einstein to recognise as intellectually thin and disappointing.

CD OF THE DAY

JANACEK: STRING QUARTET NOS 1 AND 2 GUARNERI QUARTET (RECORDED 1996) PHILIPS 456 574-2

PHILIPS'S NEW coupling challenges at least two understandable preconceptions: that Czech ensembles are the best exponents of Janacek's music, and that a 41-minnte CD at full price cannot hold its own when good, better-value alternatives are in generous supply. What marks these performances out as particularly special is their warmth and spontaneity.

Both pieces date from the glorious, late phase of Janacek's career when virtually everything be composed was an expression of his infatuation with a girl 38 years his junior. They are confessional quartets; music that had to be written and that couldn't possibly have been otherwise. The First Quartet is

the shorter of the two, a hotblooded, unpredictable essay, where sudden dramatic interjections and restless rhythmic patterns are leavened by passages of great lyrical heauty.

It's a sort of stream of consciousness that somehow establishes its own form. Janacek's specific inspiration was the novel, Kreutzer Sonata, by Leo Tolstoy, and the seething tensions of marital jealousy that fill the book are granted a musical soundtrack to match.

The playing of the Guarneri Quartet combines heightened sensibilities with a pooled interpretative wisdom that is only possible when a group has been playing together for many years. But don't expect easy

listening. There are plenty of rugged accents, and the spur of the moment is never dulled. though in the Second Quartet the one sub-titled "Intimate Letters" which Janacek dedicated specifically to his youthful beloved – the Guarneri Quartet softens the mix with a mellow, reflective quality that pays highest dividends in the outer sections of the gently rocking third

Speed changes are common throughout both works but. again, the Guarneri Quartet is adept at balancing heart and head: everything is superbly controlled, no detail left to chance and phrasal articulation is pin-sharp. The recordings are superb.

Queer vision, straight talking

sexual movie," says Gregg Araki of The Doom Generation. Released this week, the second instalment is Teen Apocalypse Trilogy is a ally provocative stomach-churner y road movie that satirises the rantic couple-on-the run genre a a surreal splatter-fest of ised sex and violence. "In the way d Philadelphia and Longtime npanion were gay films for night people," says Araki, "Doom a straight movie for gay people." Confused? You should be. Doom peration, along with forthcoming

rases from Go Fish director Rose che and Safe's Todd Haynes, as to blur the boundaries been gay and straight, identity ities and entertainment. Swapg PC manifestos for a more tle queering of the mainstream, generation of young film-makers je grouped under the banner of rw Queer Cinema" is escaping low-budget, festival-circuit tto to introduce its subversive

thetic to a wider audience. the term "New Queer Cinema" l in 1992 by Ruby Rich, a Village ards their sexuality. Eschewing red-ribbon liberal rhetoric of the is era, these film-makers were s interested in offering a "body int" of positive gay representation n in twisting narrative and reric conventions to explore ideas social alienation and the conaction of identity in particular

Tom Kahn's 1992 post-modern iod plece Swoon used the story the infamous Twenties childers Leopold and Loeb to describe av society pathologises homosexsity in the act of defining it. ynes'a feature Poison had covd similar ground the year before. ueer portmanteau movie, it comed Jean Genet with B-movie scind rites-of-passage docu-drama produce an elegant and intellecrilly rigorous response to hysterl media representations of

As its original title, Fuck The

his is my first hetero- was a more visceral reaction to the epidemic. A self-styled "irresponsi-ble movie", 1992's *The Living* End featured two HIV-positive lovers on the lam. An angry answer to both the homophobia of the right and the fearful PC caution of the left, it was full of explicit unprotected gay sex, S&M and Aids-inspired revenge fantasies, in which Araki's glamorous outlaws fantasised about going to White House to inject Bush with their blood.

These, then, were the main play ers of New Queer Cinema, although other film-makers were loosely embraced by the label, including more established directors, such as Gus Van Sant and Derek Jarman. Drawing on the legacy of Cocteau Warhol, Fassbinder and Kenneth Anger these directors employed experimental methods to describe the diversity of their difference.

"What I loved about the New Queer Cinema," Haynes later told journalists, "wasn't that it was gay film-makers making films about gay people. What I loved was the fact that it was a group of films which all had their different stylistic or formal s coined at the Sundance film fes- telling. People were thinking about the way we see the world. Whether gay directors united by an un- a straight character, we will see the Own Private Idaho). Gay characters

Unfortunately, this otherwise eclectic group all saw a world without women, their movies reproducing the same male-dominated world of any Hollywood blockbuster. Indeed, it is possible that New Queer Cinema marginalised the female of the species still further. No longer even objects of desire, the few women who made it into these films were figures of parody and revulsion. Off screen the story was the same. New Queer Cinema was a boys club, and only retrospectively were lesbian directors such as Rose Troche added to its roll call of talent.

Mainstream film has always cannibalised the alternative in its search for new subjects and visual styles. In return, many of the filmmakers in that first wave of New Queer Cinema appropriated negative stereotypes and exploitative images for their own ends. But these days things have become more complicated. Patronising, populist dramas such as Philadelphia



Rose McGowan (above) in The Doom Generation, directed by Gregg Araki (right). "It's a sort of Last Tango in Paris for teenagers," he says of his movie

have made way for the commercial, feel-good camp of movies such as Muriel's Wedding and The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. Queer directors such as Van Sant have been assimilated approaches to the stories they were into Hollywood (Matt Damon and Ben Affleck's male bonding in Good

have been tarned from sexual preda-

tors into pet best friends: The Af-

flicted Other as The Object of My

directors are using bigger budgets,

mixed casts and conventional nar-

ratives to make more commercial

pictures. Doom Generation aban-

dons the shoot-and-run "guerrilla"

For their part, many queer

Affection.

Block Orpheus is set in a

laws are replaced by high school lovers Rose McGowan and James Duval, who hook up with Jonathan Schaech's psychotic bisexual after the accidental murder of a fastfood clerk. Combining a distinctly camp, surf-speak philosophy ("I feel like a gerbil smothered in Richard Will Hunting a far cry from River Gere's asshole") with schlocky ce journalist, to describe a bunch we're looking at a gay character or Phoenix and Keanu Reeves in My scenes of death, sex and decapitation, Doom is the queer answer to

In a bid for broader distribution, the

muscular gay sex of 'The Living End'

and 'Poison' has been replaced by

censor-friendly off-screen orgasms and a

more diffuse homoeroticism

"It was a period when the integrationist spirit was still very much alive" says Haynes, "and androgyny and bisexuality were very much in vogue. I tend to see it as a more progressive time than now." Troche's new feature, Bedrooms and Hallways (still without a distributor), is more upbeat about the

dom went hand in glove with glam's

concept of identity as performance.

sents a farcical ronde of chic London relationships that highlights the liberating mutability of contemporary sexual identity. Of all the New Queer directors, Kahn has probably stayed closest to his low-budget, experimental roots, writing (in 1996) the screenplay for Office Killer, the camp pastiche on

contemporaries, however, Kahn's recent work shows a move away from a singular, affirmative identification with male gayness towards a broader queer aesthetic. Introducing women and straight characters, queer cinema in the Nineties has widened its sights to portray a fluid pansexuality accessible to gay and straight audiences alike Cynics might say that New

merely signals a mature Queer Cinema that is confident enough to enter the mainstream without losing its critical gay voice. Just as straight dramas often use gay characters to confirm the status

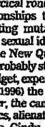
and Poison has been replaced by

censor-friendly off-screen orgasms

and a more diffuse homoeroticism.

characters to disturb the beterosexual norm. Doom's Schaech may seduce Rose McGowan, but it's the desire between Schaech and Duyal that really drives the film. Similarly, the real romance in Velvet Goldmine is not between Jonathan Rhys-Meyer's glam god Brian Stade and wife Toni Colette, but between Slade and Ewan McGregor's grunge icon Curt Wild

By appropriating mainstream styles and ideas, these queer movies reveal their artifice, slyly positing free-floating desire as an alternative to happy-ever-after heterosexuality. As Araki says of Doom: "It's heterosexual in a very queer way, which is something that is really interesting for me. I think that of the movies I've made it's the most subversive... I call it Last Tango in Paris for teenagers."



Coitus interruptus figures heavily Gust as James Duval and Jonathan office politics, alienation and female Schaech are about to consummate their relationship in Doom Generidentity by Cindy Sberman, an American photographer Like his ation, a group of homophobes intervene: in Nowhere, the last installment of the Teen Apocalypse Trilogy, one of two lust-filled boys just happens to turn into a cock-roach). Then again, perhaps the wider appeal and more commercial approach of these new movies Queer film-makers are simply grow-

quo, new work by Araki, Haynes and Troche employs gay and bisexual



tactics of Araki's previous films for and aesthetics, Goldmine's nostalgic period piece sees the Seventies' polished 35mm imagery and a ing up and selling out. Certainly, in a bid for broader distribution the kinetic MTV take on juvenila delinqueering of the mainstream as a radmuscular gay sex of The Living End ical moment in which personal freequency. Araki's HIV-positive out-

straight exploitation flicks such as

epic, Velvet Goldmine, looks back to

the Seventies as a time when gen-

der-bending role play and sexual and

sartorial experimentation escaped

from gay subculture into the main-

stream. Rather than the Nineties'

apolitical assimilation of gay ideas

Haynes's forthcoming glam rock

Natural Born Killers.

DOUBLE BILL

JULIAN HENRIQUE, DIRECTOR OF 'BABY MOTHER', ON HIS IDEAL CINEMATIC PAIRING CHUNGKING EXPRESS DIR. WANG KAR-WAI (1995) BLACK ORPHEUS DIR. MARCEL CAMUS (1958)



'Chungking Express' and 'Black Orpheus' - urban films in very different environments

mythical present. It takes the Orpheus myth about the god of music going into the underworld to rescue Persephone. In that underworld there is also the underworld of a city; the gangster land and the unconscious come together and we

go into the deep motivations of where we are coming from. neering film in terms of black

Black Orpheus was a piofilm-making. The director was of culture and aesthetic. By setting the ancient Greek myth a Frenchmen and it was done at a time when there was a lot in a black carnival underworld it was taking a very specific and of interest in the new black



world. Jean Paul Sartre was perhaps unusual setting and discussing negritude - an idea which tries to point to the essence of black-ness in terms

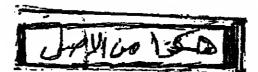
showing how the archetypal and recurring myth can function in a different place. And, of course, the use of colour for both night-time and carnival costumes is absolutely splendid. There is one amazing

scene when Orpheus dies and climbs up a hillside by a shanty town, falls and is impaled on a huge cactus.

It's the idea of ancient timelessness and the Post-Modern clashing together in these films which makes them work well together. There is also a very interesting contrast between the two in the use of colour. Black Orpheus is in Cinemascope with the old Technicolor colour stock look with its contrast of reds and blues. It's a colour quality characteristic of films in the late-Fifties. It contrasts with a modern film stock in Changking Express which registers colour in a completely different manner. It's more bleached out, a kind of alienated look completely appropriate to the subject.

From different ends of this half of the century, Chungking Express and Black Orpheus capture the world in all its different energies.

> INTERVIEWBY JENNIFER RODGER





Just blood, sweat and fears

THE BIG PICTURE



RYAN GILBEY

LOVE IS THE DEVIL (18) DIRECTOR: JOHN MAYBURY 90 MINS STARRING DEREK JACOBS AND DANIEL CRAIG

FRANCIS BACON never ventured into film, though his work was informed by cinematic possibilities. and cinema could happily he inhabited by his spirit. He's there in Last Tango in Paris, where his paintings are employed to usher in the mood of disquiet, while Donald Cammell admitted to arranging Bacon-esque compositions for Performance. The artist's own tastes were raw and eclectic. It was said that he harboured a passion for the Rocky series - for its hyperbolic amplification of the wet, leathery thwack of fist on flesh.

This suggests a romantic fusion of art and man, but Love is the Devil, John Maybury's film about Bacon, goes one step further. It mixes up his life and work as though the two were squiggles of paint on a palette, comhined to achieve a pungent, unfamiliar new shade.

Love is the Devil distances itself from the territory of tortured artist biopic by virtue of its modest subtitle - Study for a portrait of Francis Bacon. While the film has discernible momentum, charting the dismal trajectory of the relationship between Bacon (Derek Jacobi) and George Dyer (Daniel Craig), his lover of seven years, it is closer to a collection of sketches or brief nightmares, each ending on an ambiguous cut or a tantalising fade-out. This is Maybury's first feature, though his experience as an experimental film. has taught birn to search out the soul of a subject without being cramped by narrative demands.

Cinema has never been shy of investigating homosexual desire



Derek Jacobi bears an eerie physical resemblance to Bacon - the eyes dead, the face puffed as though from a jellyfish sting

those audiences seeking another Killing of Sister George or Prick Up Your Ears because it withholds explicit data on its characters'

This sparseness backfires only once, when a passing reference to and video artist, not to mention for-mer collaborator with Derek Jarman, ther gives no indication of the regime of horrific abuse which passed for paternal affection. Mostly, the paucity of information effectively reduces love to appetite - a hunger for hunger's sake. George

by the bed, and George lashes him with a belt. Lit cigarettes are also involved. As with any great love affair, there is an ugly clash of back-

grounds. Bacon lounges around in provided that it all ends in tears, and preferably blood and sweat too, but write botching a burgland state of the Devil will frustrate invites him to bed. The friend in the provided that it all ends in tears, and write botching a burgland state of the Devil will frustrate invites him to bed. The friend in tears to the Devil will frustrate invites him to bed. The friend in tears to the Devil will frustrate invites him to bed. The friend in the provided that it all ends in tears, and count for nothing in his new social count for

you know, they have assumed the po-

sitions of a married couple: one lan-

poised at the shaving mirror. True,

they don't lunch with the in-laws or

trundle around the Co-op together,

but they share their own quaint,

comforting rituals. Bacon kneels

ton plays as someone trapped midway through a transformation into guishing in the bath, the other a werewolf. George has his own surrogate family of Brylcreemed East End gangsters, and it's a sweet touch that these minor Krays should be the only ones to express concern

> wrong crowd. Daniel Craig's portrayal of this hopeless boy clambering after manhood is a glorious mess of poignant contradictions. George is a thug whose means of survival suddenly

about George falling in with the

ing friends, you'll be judged not on the efficiency with which you make the incision, hut whether you've selected the correct knife.

The realisation imprisons George; when self-consciousness pervades this most fundamental level of behaviour, instinct is snuffed out. In fact, the film is full of images of imprisonment, self-imposed or otherwise. A recurring feature is the crane shot in which the camera slowly rises to peer down on Bacon from the top of a room which had appeared to be of normal dimensions hut is actually revealed to resemble

being infected by the art, as though the film stock had been left too close to one of Bacon's canvase This goes for Derek Jacobi too. He to Bacon - the eyes dead hut for an

Bacon's grotesquely beautiful style create the sensation of the celluloid

bears an eerie physical resemblance occasional spasm of rage or lust, the face puffed as though from a jellyfish sting. He's very good at translating Bacon's sexual and creative restlessness into physical movement too, and the actor is helped here by Maybury, who often simply fixes the camera on him like a spotlight, magnifying every twitch and squirm.

The movie is not so much filmed from Bacon's perspective as shot through the hairs of his paintbrush, just as A Man like Eva or Mishima A Life in Four Chapters scrutinised their respective subjects through the fabric of their art.

At a boxing match, Bacon is elated by the collision of bodies and the spray of sweat; when a plume of blood is splashed across his face, he releases an ecstatic gasp, his expression mirroring the shot of the wounded nurse from Battleship Potemkin which had earlier inspired him. At other points, Maybury plays violently blurred close-ups in stuttering slow-motion to echo the thrashing, fleshy chaos of Bacon's painting. It might seem paradoxical for the moving picture to struggle to replicate the effect of a portrait, but Bacon's work was charged with a physicality that doesn't so much lend itself to cinema as test the medium's mettle.

It is fitting that Love is the Devil seems to be unfolding within a Bacon canvas given Maybury's eloquent argument that both the artist and his model were trapped inside the work. There is no governing reality. Even outside the cluttered studio, there is a heightened artificiality which the real world cannot penetrate. During a television interview, the studio camera zooms into Bacon's bloated mouth as though suddenly possessed by an attack of Baconitis.

For Cocteau, the mirror was a

magical gateway to other dimen-

sions, but in Maybury's film it traps

those whose likenesses it bears.

fractured or multiple reflections in

mirrors and silverware, or distorted

images spied through the curve of

a brandy glass. Maybury was refused

paintings in the movie, yet this re-

striction has granted him an unex-

pected freedom. Set alongside

examples of the artist's own work.

the film's evocation of its essence

might appear tame. On their own,

Mayhury's approximations of

Many of the shots are composed as It could be that Maybury plays his trump card too early during a scene of Bacon plotting the composition of a new painting. He picks up a batpermission to incorporate Bacon's tered dustbin lid, paints around it and then turns to face us, wearing the lid on his arm while wielding a dripping paintbrush in the other hand. The makeshift sword and shield provide a piercing metaphor for a man whose art both reflected his world and protected him from it.

ALSO SHOWING

LETHAL WEAPON 4 (15) RICHARD DONNER MEN WITH GUNS (15) JOHN SAYLES THE DOOM GENERATION (18) GREGG ARAKI - CHARACTER (15) MIKE VAN DIEM KISSING A FOOL (15) DOUG ELLIN R PEPE LE MOKO (NC) JULIEN DUVIVIER

THE POSTER copy for Lethal Weopon 4 says it all. "The action you expect, the faces you love," it trumpets presumptuously. In other words, you've seen it all before and you're still going to come back for more, aren't you? The continuing success of this series of light-hearted thrillers is a testament to the number of people for whom cinema is a comfort blanket - a breezy stroll along familiar streets rather than an almighty leap into the great unknown.

To its credit, Lethal Weapon 4 does strive to bring a fresb tang to a stale recipe. Although Detectives Riggs (Mel Gibson) and Murtaugh (Danny Glover) are struggling to crack a counterfeiting industry run by Triads, a more pressing concern is the battle against old age. When action beroes contemplate hanging up their holsters, they are sometimes driven to make interesting career choices - it's no coincidence that Gibson took on his most challenging roles last year in Ransom and Conspiracy Theory. Lethal Weapon 4 doesn't offer him the same diverse opportunities as those films, but there are enough references to Riggs's age to create some interesting synchronicity between the actor and the role.

With an eve on the younger members of its audience, the picture also finds room for the sparky young actor Chris Rock, who is distinguished among this ingratiating cast by his ability to earn your laughter without pleading for it. Otherwise, the movie is all gratuitous destructions, raging fireballs of a brutal military regime.



'Lethal Weapon 4': a fresh tang to a stale recipe

and male bonding. One mem- Unperturbed, the doctor pressorable set-piece remains, though, featuring Gibson doing 80mpb on an upturned coffee table, and one with no tax or MOT at that.

From men with sitting-room furniture to Men with Guns, the conscientious and dreary new movie from John Sayles, who is going to have to do something very drastic to convince me that he isn't the most over-rated film-maker in America. In an unspecified Latin American country, a doctor (Federico Luppi) decides to investigate the fates of the students whom be trained as doctors.

However, his investigations reveal that each of them has met a grisly end at the hands

es on through ever poorer villages, collecting companions and testimonies which create an image of a country in crisis. Sayles is commendably adventurous in his choice of subject matter, but consistently fails to animate or dramatise any of his ideas. As films go, Men with Guns would make great radio. Gregg Araki's The Doom

Generation was made in 1995, before his last film Nowhere. but the ramshackle style and pop-culture preoccupations are the same. The America inhabited by the film's trio of bisexual psychopaths is on the brink of apocalypse: all-night convenience stores serve luminous junk-food and bear signs reading "Shoplifters will be executed"; the dismembered and decapitated flaunt their injuries and start speaking in tongues

The stoned humour which thrives in the air of depravity is best exemplified by the actress Rose McGowan - even as she is tramping ankle-deep through carnage, her lipstick remains unsmudged, ber bob unruffled. But even a fan would have to concede that all this debauch-

long after they should have

stopped twitching.

ery wears thin some way before the end.

The Dutch drama Character, winner of this year's Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, follows the efforts of a young lawyer (Fedja van Huet) to escape the cruel control of his bailiff father. Told in flashback, the story evolves into a mystery hinging on the old man's enigmatic protestation that he was trying to help rather than hinder his son. The picture is too long, but I liked the playfully brooding tone which transforms it into a Gothic cartoon for grown-ups; indeed, the phys-iognomical peculiarities of its supporting cast would make Jeunet and Caro drool.

On to Kissing a Fool, a comedy starring the disturbingly uncharismatic David Schwimmer from Friends. He plays an egotistical sportscaster who feels claustrophohic at the prospect of marriage, and decides to test the loyalty of his bride-to-be (Mili Avital) by using his best friend (Jason Lee) as bait. Yes, it's another film about male fear of commitment - and yet another with nothing original to say on the matter. The only reprieve comes from Jason Lee, though it's a measure of how tired the movie feels that even be is just

repeating his Agitated Best Pal routine from Chasing Amy. A deserved re-release this week for Pepe le Moko, Julien Duvivier's 1936 thriller in which many themes which would later congeal to form film not surface in an unusual context. The setting is the unforgiving labyrinth of the Algiers Casbah; Jean Gabin is the romantic criminal yearning for love whilst being bounded by the police. When his resolve starts to crack and splinter, you glimpse a vulnerability that is exquisitely moving. What begins as a battle of wits ends with a man grabbing at a future that will always be just out of reach. Ouch, in a word.

All films on release from





Short changed

How does the British Short Film Festival survive when audiences, producers, and even film-makers prefer features? Charlotte O'Sullivan talks to festival organiser Amanda Casson

asically he became very violent," says Katherine Campbell, "and I was beat up several times, under Huey's direct hand or by his directors." "Huey" is Huey P Newton. Campbell is a woman who joined the Black Panthers as a ferociously idealistic young girl. In Sien-na McLean's documentary Still Revolutionaries - one of 380 films which will be shown as part of the British Short Film Festival - Campbell and a fellow ex-party member detail the implosion of a movement they believe in to this day. It is a short, sharp and shocking history lesson. And it lasts all of 16 minutes.

Sadly, few people will see this film. Like short men, short films have to fight to be taken seriously (and do nnt always succeed). Amanda Casson, who has been running the festival for 10 years, is used to this. "There's no outlet," she fumes, as I drag her from her cassettecrammed office for a quick chat. "Short films aren't seen as an art form in themselves. Miramax pick up a short film and run it before a feature. hut it's once every three years and inevitably it'll be a film with stars in it." Soon-to-be-released Desserts, starring Ewan McGregor, is a case in point.

The general public is no better. Mostly, says Casson, they are drawn by major names - Scorsese shorts say, or commercials by Bergman. In 1995 Casson had a whole section devoted to the short films of Hollywood's big shots. It was a sell out.

What of the festival's other, more specialist punters? By Casson's own admission, the rest of the festival's attendees tend to be members of the Jeremy Howe is the series producindustry (travelling incognito) or young, wannabe film-makers (waiting to be approached). In other words, their eyes are on the featurefilm prize, because that is where the prestige and money lie. Helena Appio – whose Portrait of

Mr Pink, a wonderfully tender, 15 minute study of an old, lonely Jamaican man, can be seen in this year's festival - says it is not like that for everyone. She usually works on documentaries of 50 minutes, but chose to pursue this project because *I'm not interested in making loads of money and I love getting into a little world". She agrees, however,

3



Festival organiser Amanda Casson, right, and Panther Huey P Newton, above Neville Elder/AP

that most of her film-maker friends are a bit snooty about the genre and "want to do the long thing".

So are short films a lost cause? er of BBC2's 10x10 and The Tolent at the British Short Film Festival, a one-off programme that will feature "four of the best" films. He allows that TV heads like Michael Jackson "are not going to build their evenings around short films", because "great swathes of short films are wearing". But he also feels these mini-flicks offer unique opportunities. "It's like the difference between a lyric poem and an epic one." He warms to his theme. "Some people, like Chris Newby for example, make features that are far less exciting than their shorts. Another thing to remember about shorts is

audiences are often prepared to take greater risks - you can push them further because they know it's going to take up little of their time."

As with Rowe, Casson's job is to elect the good ones from the dross. No easy matter, as Casson will tell you. Of the 5,000 entries which she perused over weekends and evenings ("I have no life," she admits cheer-fully), most were "deeply deeply bad -out of focus when they are not sup-posed to be or so self-indulgent it's untrue". Originality was somewhat lacking, too, "They all want to do Reservoir Dogs in the docklands," she says with a deep sigh. "It's a very easy genre to copy-all you need are four rough-looking chaps."

On top of that, she has market-led sponsors (including Metro Goldwyn

pagne Gosset) to contend with. "They're never interested in the stuff I like," she mutters. "There's a wonderful, harrowing film this year called Extension 55 about disabled children in Poland." The sponsors choose the various prizes. Casson sniffs:

"So it's bound not to get anything." That said, Casson is a woman prepared to compromise with the mainstream. She is delighted, for instance. with the commercial success of many of her young finds. "Jamie Thraves." she confides, "was picked up by John Stewart of Oil Factory Films he's the brother of Eurhythmic] Dave Stewart, which is another connection because, of course, Dave Stewart makes a lot of short films." Ye gods, the heart sinks. "Anyway. Jamie's very famous. He did a Hol-



South Africa's Koto Bolom, is married to "a very famous and white model" Casson leans forward confidentially. "He's very black, a very political animal, but she's got lots of money, so that's good!"

This mixture of know-how and innocence is probably what keeps the British Short Film Festival going. And 1998's showing certainly conwhat Casson fondly calls her "400 piles of crap" there's a new 14-minute documentary from George Hickenlooper (who helmed Hearts of Darkness about the making of Apocalypse Now) on cult Seventies director Monte Heliman. There is also a perfectly strange but rivetting entry from Jay Rosenblatt, Human Remains, which focuses on the lives of five dictators, including Mussolini and Hitler, and begins, "I always liked chocolate éclairs." There are also way too many films by young men expert at the regurgitation of Hieronymus Bosch paintings. But hey, that goes with the territory.

What keeps Casson going is her belief that short films are "tighter" than the average movie: "Jim Jarmusch still makes short films, so does Mike Leigh; it's a way of keeping themselves disciplined." Does her job not make the rest of the world seem strangely slack? Casson laughs. "I went to see a preview of Love is the Devil. The girl sitting next to me said God that must have seemed like two days to you, not two hours!" Is that how it felt? Casson surveys the sky diplomatically. Then she looks down at her watch, presses her bundle of Mayer, American Airlines and Cham-sten Pils adverts!" Another favourite, papers to ber chestand sources away:

VIDEO WATCH

MIKE HIGGINS

As Good As It Gets (15), available to rent now A HANDY equation for Hollywood comedies: the degree to which an apparently irredeemable character exhibits non-PC sentiments in the opening reel is invariably in direct proportion to the sentimental claptrap said character will be spouting come the end of the popcorn. And so it goes with Jack Nicholson'a foul-mouthed, obsessive-compulsive novelist, Melvin Udall He can't stand his homosexual artist neighbour. Simon (Greg Kinnear), dines out with sterilised cutlery, and demands to be served by the same waitress, Carol (Helen Hunt) each time he visits his favourite restaurant

Udali's belligerent tirades are lent a degree of comic force by Nicholson's typically showy performance, but the rest of the screenplay works overtime to atone for Udall's misanthropy. Carol, as a single mother hurdened with an ill child, is saved from a ghastly canonisation only by Helen Hunt's excellent performance, while Simon seems to function solely as a second gauge by which to judge Udall's prejudices. Against this background, the developing relationship between Melvin and Carol may be inevitable, but it'a no less ludicrous

In the Company of Men (18), available to rent from next Wednesday . WHAT IS really disturbing about Neil Labute's hlack comedy isn't the viciousness of its male protagonists' project - Chad and Howard plan to destroy a woman to avenge what they perceive as female treachery in the bedroom and the boardroom - but the mundanity that Labute divines in their actions, Ball-busting Chad (Aaron Eckhart) and timid Howard (Matt Malloy) bitch and brag their way around their almost exclusively male office, indulging in the kind of macho posturing that finds its apotheosis in their plans for Christine (Stacy Edwards), a vulnerable, deaf temp. Chad and Howard plan to romance her simultaneously and then

dump her after six weeks. Labute's coup, though, is to approach this nasty menage a trois in the manner of an anthropological study. The director breaks his own screenplay up into six acts, punctuating each with a burst of thunderous drums. The alpha male, common office variety, is ruthlessly satirised, yet the universal quality of the screenplay - we don't know anyone's surnames or which town we're in - is a reminder that conversations not unlike these are taking place at a photocopier near you. If there is a weakness, Christine's character, benign and idealised, is something of a cipher - only at the conclusion does the film consider her isolation from her suitors.

Jackie Brown (18), available to rent from Monday IT'S UNLIKELY that you'll find posters for Tarantino's latest feature adorning student bedrooms in the way those for Reservoir Dogs and Pulp Fiction have for most of this decade. In fact, apart from the continuing attention given to slick dialogue, a wonderful soundtrack and narrative sleight-of-hand, Jackie Brown feels like the director's attempt to escape his own legacy. Adapted from Elmore

Leonard's Rum Punch, the film centres on the attempts of the eponymous 44-year-old air stewardess (Pam Grier) to fleece the gun-runner (Samuel L Jackson) for whom she moonlights, and the police, who have coerced her into informing on her boss. Her accomplice is fiftysomething bail bondsmen, Max Cherry (Robert Forster), and it's a nice irony that, like the last chance middle aged Max and Jackie seize, B-movie regulars Grier and Forster make the most of their lead roles. While handling the tension of the sting well, Tarantino reveals a sensitivity for character that has always distinguished Leonard's books but which has been absent from the director's work. Jackie Brown's minor figures -Bridget Fonda's fading surf chick in particular - justify the trip to the video store alone.

A TRIUMPH... makes you want to get up and dance!" "Wicked. delicious, funny, immaculately acted" Martin Hogie. Financial Times 'Deft. bittersweet and very funny. Beckinsale is a revelation' "Very dry, very funny, His fondest and wittiest work" hear, but he be Whit Stillmon's The Last Days of History is made at night. CASTLE ROCK ENTERTAINMENTS WHIT STILLMAN'S "THE LAST DAYS OF DISCO" (HLOË SEVIGNY KATE BECKINSME CHRIS EIGEMAN MATT KEESLAR HACKENZIE ASTIN MATTHEW ROSS TARA SUBKOFF BURR STEERS DAYID THORNTON ISID BARRYMORE MIGHAEL WEATHERLY GROBERT SEAN LEONARD OF JEHNNER BEALS COMMON HOPKINS, SHITH, BARDEN OF SARAH EDWARDS STORM FOR TOUGAS FROM FOUR BURNES HAFTET AFTERMAN HOW MARK SUOTIO CECULA KATE ROQUE & EDMON ROCH TOWN, ANDREW HAFTET & MAY PIRES FROM THORNTON TO TOUGH THOMAS STORM FOR THE STREAM HAFTET & MAY PIRES Size way y JOHN THOMAS Africk From Madinary WHIT STREMAN RIO 👨

RUSHES

THE ETERNAL drama that is Jennifer Jason Leigh and Har was in Jerry Moguire and the the production of Eyes Wide vey Keitel have had to pull out actor was required for re-Shut, Stanley Kuhrick's longawaited film, seems to have en- ficult to quash rumours surtered its final act. Warner rounding the film's tortuous Brothers announced a US release date for the film, 16 July next year, with an international release to follow shortly. As after stars, Tom Cruise, has next summer's US release kept his schedule schedule stands, Kubrick's free for the propsychosexual drama, starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman as married psychiatrists, will screen apbe up against a number of big реагапсе

hitters released in the weeks before: Will Smith's Wild Wild West, the first of the new Star Wars trilogy. and Bofinger, a vehicle for Eddie Murphy and Steve Martin. The studio will want to avoid : this summer's Avengers fiasco and

while Warner have Bros demonstrated notable loyalty to Kubrick over the past 30 years, they'll be looking for a big hit from a production which has given them a lot of headaches.

Since filming began in 1996,

and the studio has found it difshoots earlier this year. gestation. Kubrick can count WITH MEL Gibson about to himself lucky for instance, that appear at a multiplex near you

as Martin Lethal Weapon one of the world'a most-sought Riggs for the fourth time, news comes that Universal Pictures fourth installment the Australian on the road to Hollywood, Mad Max. Twelve years after the last of George apocalyptic adventures. the director has ap

ly been signed up to revive the franchise, according to reports. in Variety.

Gibson's representatives. however, claimed not even to have been contacted about the possibility of their man sporting his Outback mullet for a fourth time. The actor has come a long way since Mod is gearing up for a Max: Beyond Thunderdome. and now commands a salary of the film that set per film in excess of the total cost of the original trilogy. The 42-year-old has already stated that he's unlikely to line up for a Lethal Weapon 5, and if we're to believe that then a fifth Mod Mox may be beyond Gibson.

> BEST LEAVE the stuntwork to James Cameron and his box of CGI tricks. Police in Michigan, USA, have report-· ed the drowning of a 25-year-old woman who allegedly decided to adopt Kate Winslet'a spirit of ecstasy pose on the prow of Titanic in the film of the same name. The woman died when she lost her balance and toppled off the pleasure boat, banging her head as she did so.

MIKE HIGGINS

THE CHARTS	LONDON BOX OFFICE		
	TITLE	SCREENS	WEEK'S TAKINGS (E)
	1 Saving Private Ryan 2 Lock Stock & 2 Smoking 3 The Last Days of Disco 4 The Horse Whisperer 5 The Spanish Prisoner 6 The X Hies 7 Armageddon 8 The Land Girls 9 Le Bossu 10 Dr Dolittle	10 9 7 8 11 5 3	234.236 111.743 52.803 46.679 33.154 28.486 27.850 17.121 13,990 9.945
	US BOX TITLE 1 S'thing About Mary 2 Blade 3 Saving Private Ryan 4 Knock Off 5 Ever After	2,545 2,375 2,807 1,800	#ERK'S TAKINGS (5) 10,920,201 10,788,664 8,825,090 5,516,231
Complacent male-bonding rituals continue to enthrail the public, but this time in Spielberg's Second World War Eu- ope as opposed to Goy Ritchie's East End. Stateside, Some- hing About Many improves – having slipped to number 2, he Farrelly Brothers' wilfully dumb filck is back on top.	5 54 7 Why Do Fools Fall 8 Snake Eyes 9 The Parent Trap 10 Stella Got Her Groove	1,869 1,377 1,912 2,045 1,340	4.348.419 4.025,576 3,540,408 3.331,861 3.202,708 3.019,496

3,202,708 3,019,496 Cideo Waren

EDUCATION

www.independent.co.uk

Where are all the teachers?

Teacher recruitment is in crisis. But are the millions spent on the Teacher Training Agency's advertising campaign really going to make a difference? Many think not. By Emma Haughton



Anne Hubbard: 'I couldn't believe this was happening to Julian. He had been studying for nearly seven years'

the Teacher Train ing Agency (TTA), which is using the to win over high-fiyer graduates in its multimillion-pound teacher recruitment campaign.

Pipo far, however, the catchy slogan. cinema ad, telephone hotline and website have made little impact on prospective applicants. Figures from the Graduate Teacher Training Registry show that this year's take-up of PGCE and Bachelor of Education courses is well down on 1997. Around 80 per cent of BEd courses had vacancies and joined clearing, while mid-August figures showed sharp drops in applications across most subjects. Mathematics was one of the worst hit, with PGCE applications down 22 per cent on the previous year, more than 60 per cent below government targets. Science and geography were also down 15 per cent and 14 per cent respectively. Only English, IT and PE made small gains on last year.

Although even leading teacher training institutions have struggiato fill their courses, few are surprised. "I've been predicting this nightmare for a number of years." says Ted Wragg, professor of education at Exeter University, who points out that a still buoyant economy is providing more alternatives in graduate employment. "When the economy is poor, people are desperate to get into teacher training. even just as a hedge against not getting other kinds of job."

Applications to teacher training may well be an accurate barometer of the UK economy, but the current dearth is not just a matter of economics. Nor is it simply a question of money. Although the autumn Green Paper on teachers' earnings is expected to propose performan (1-related pay in an attempt to attract more high-flyers, Wragg thinks it is reputation, rather than tinised job on earth." JULIAN'S STORY

'You can't teach kids. You're too old'

WITH THE downturn in applications to be trainee teachers, universifies are crying out for good, high-flying candidates for their courses. Or so you would think. Yet two weeks ago Julian

Hubbard started a teaching joh in Uganda after spending two years trying unsuccessfully to get on to a postgraduate teacher training course or a teaching joh in an independent school in Britain.

Before taking the Ugandan teaching joh be had been reduced to taking a job as a security guard to help make ends weet. He and his wife. Anne, have had their finances wrecked by Hubbard's decision to give up his antiques business to return to university and pursue a life-long dream of being a secondary school history teacher. Last week Anne put their house near Chepstow ou the market prior

remuneration, that is crucial.

"I don't think money is the big

issue. Starting salaries in teaching

are not seriously adrift of what grad-

uates would get elsewhere." The

principle problem, he says, is the

disaffection of current teachers,

who have always been the best re-

cruiters of the next generation.

"They are tired of being the butt of

society's wrath and are telling peo-

ple they must be mad to want to do

it. Teaching is a job that appeals to

people, but they're stopped in their

tracks when teachers are always

being criticised. It's the most scru-

to joining him in Uganda. Hubbard was 37 when he decided on a life change. He went to Reading University and got a first in Ancient History. He then accepted a three-year scholarship at the University of Wales in Swansea. After just one year he became a PhD candidate. and at 44 was awarded a

doctorate in Ancient History

and Civilisation

Despite having been offered a PGCE place during his first degree, when Hnbbard applied for a teacher training place through UCAS while doing his doctorate he was turned down without explanation by all institutions. "I applied to many universities and hundreds of independent schools, and I was never offered even an interview," he says.

Anne was equally distraught. "I just couldn't believe this was happening. Julian had been

One leading university education

department head, who wishes to re-

main anonymous, lays the blame

at the feet of the TTA and Ofsted.

Ofsted's high-profile attacks on the

teacher education and morale have

so damaged the reputation of teach-

graduates simply don't want to get

into the field, he says. "If you want

people to do something difficult

and demanding, it's not very clever

to start by telling them they are no

He is particularly scathing of the

studying for nearly seven years and we'd spent our savings, and he couldn't get a job." Hubbard believes it was high qualifications and age that stood in his way. "Despite the Government's rhetoric, there remains a deep-seated suspicion of high academic qualifications amongst the public educational training establishments, together with an almost breathtaking desire to maintain the status quo." But Anne wanted an explanation, and wrote to the TTA, Ofsted, the Welsh Office, even Tony Blair; although

there was sympathy for Hubbard's predicament, she was advised to go back to the institutions which turned him down. One told her that her husband's application hadn't been worth an interview. Another university

eventually offered him an interview. Hubbard felt the

interviewers were hostile. A few days later a letter arrived saying that they helieved he did not understand the nature of history and they considered him too old to fit

into a school. Anne says : "It has been an absolute nightmare. We are very angry about how this has happened in a climate where they are crying out for qualified teachers. All my husband wanted was to teach history to kids because he really believed that if they could be taught to analyse what happened in the past, they would be better equipped to handle the complex world of

"We have spent every penny trying to make him a teacher and he has been treated in such a humiliating way. It has all ended in disaster.'

EMMA HAUGHTON

been totally ineffective. There have been lots of inquiries, but very few converting to applications. The ad shows these boring old farts, standing with their backs to the kids, writprofession and the TTA's impact on ing on a blackboard, who would be Others believe government remade mincemeat of in a compreform has given teaching an inhensive. Is that really supposed to

ers and teaching that bright young attract bright graduates? Wragg, too, regards the TIA den of public scrutiny, and the bucampaign as fire brigade tactics. "If reaucracy imposed by innovations you don't burn the place down, you such as assessment. According to won't have to put the fire out. Of Bethan Marshall, lecturer in educourse it's right to remind people cation at King's College, it has of the value of teachers, but it's just changed the nature of the profesaddressing the symptoms. You sion, "and what is guaranteed to gets a good teacher, perhaps, but TTA's recruitment campaign. "It's don't change the esteem of a pro-make the job hateful is the idea that

fession overnight when it's had years of rubbishing. I'm told there are huge guffaws when the ad comes on in cinemas - probably from the teachers in the audience."

creasingly mundane image. of decline. In maths and science, for Teachers are suffering from the bur-instance, it's notoriously difficult to

you spend all your time filling in

The millions spent on cinema ads does not replace the much clearer message that teaching is about implementing government policy, she believes. "If you want bright people, you've got to make the profession look more creative, hut teachers have to work so much harder now to get the creative scope they once took for granted. The literacy hour, for example, is extraordinarily prescriptive."

But Stephen Hillier, secretary of the TTA, is impatient of such views. "It's like saying a doctor's freedom is restricted by telling them the most effective surgical methods to use. Teaching has to be seen in the same light. You can't have a system where you do your own thing, it's not what parents or the government wants."

The TTA is happy with its progress. Hillier believes the ad agency has achieved its aim of raising the stakes, as well as doubling the number of inquiries. "We didn't expect it to have an immediate impact - it would have been great if it had, but the objective was to raise the profile and status of teaching." The TTA is also keen to show that t hose with the combination of skills teachers require will find they can succeed in many other careers.

But as Wragg points out, teachers are already wise to their wider market value, with three quarters leaving the profession before retirement. Haemorrhaging staff at one end and failing to attract new blood at the other, the profession may find itself caught in a vicious circle instance, it's notoriously difficult to recruit high quality teachers. "You get a cumulative effect where teachers are not especially well qualified to teach these subjects, which in turn doesn't inspire the next generation to teach it themselves." No one for-

'I like teaching but I won't be a teacher'



KATHERINE'S STORY

 IN JUNE this year, I graduated from university with a Bachelor of Education Honours degree, I got a 2:1 and good references on my abilities as a primary school teacher. However, you will not now find me ensconced in a

I am not alone. There were several of us who realised as graduation loomed that teaching was not for us. We spent many an hour, and longer, discussing whether to teach or not to teach; where our true destinies might lie.

Yet I enjoyed many aspects of the school day. As part of the degree, we were required to undertake the dreaded "teaching experience", which at the end of the course involved undertaking at least 80 per cent of the teaching and full responsibility for the day-to-day running of the classroom. For the majority of the time, the children were a delight and a successful lesson gave a buzz. I worked with some inspirational teachers who were truly dedicated to their profession and to meeting both the educational and emotional needs of the children. There was always a sense of teamwork in the schools that I worked, with was ever too busy to help and advise.

At the end of the school day, although I was weary, there was usually a feeling of great satisfaction.

The main reason for not joining the profession is that at the end of the school day I knew with unhappy certainty that I would need to spend the rest of the afternoon and evening battling with a never-ending pile of paperwork Planning, recording, assessing and marking were just a few of the joys that awaited.

Figures from the Department of Education for the year 1995-6 show a significant drop-out from the profession after graduation. Of students completing a PGCE, 32 per cent did not go on to teach - 35 per cent from my

Although, some of these students may have re-entered the profession after a break, it shows that there is a problem with retaining graduates in the industry. So what is going wrong? The National Union of Teachers, in conjunction with the Teacher Training Agency, surveyed over 3,000 16 to 19year-olds at the end of last year, with 1,000 responding. The survey asked students to give four factors that would put them off entering the profession. Fifty-five per cent cited long hours and work at home. The main reason, given by 60 per cent of respondents, was misbehaving students. The third and fourth top factors were low pay (44 per cent) and stress (24 per cent).

The bureaucracy nightmare is exacerbated by the class sizes. It is clear that the larger the size of the class, the more paper work there is to do. There has been an effort by the government to tackle the issue of bureaucracy with strong guidelines laid out as to the amount of paperwork that teachers should be doing. However, it remains to be seen whether the schools will take up these guidelines.

The salaries awarded to teachers have always been a problem in the issue of recruitment. The starting salary for a good honours graduate is £14,751, which is below average for graduates. After three years teaching, the salary is 18 per cent lower than average. This increases to a third lower than average after five years. If you then stay in the profession for seven years, the salary will be £22,023. This is the top of the scale and although it is possible to increase earnings by taking on extra responsibilities, there may not be enough financial incentive for doing so.

It remains to be seen whether I will resist the callings of the profession forever. Unless promises of cuts in bureaucracy and rises in pay come to fruition, I cannot envisage myself returning to the industry. Luckily there are teachers, working day in. day out, who strive to give the children in their classes the best possible chance in life.

KATHERINE STOREY -=



Many students are bored by classic texts because they tack any rapport with the authors. By Stephen Logan

You like books? That's unusual

PEOPLE COMMONLY suppose that teaching literature must be a delightful occupation. After all, the subject matter is so interesting and the students, presumably, so keen.

In principle, of course, these are fair assumptions. Literature deals, in the most diverse, ingenious and interesting ways, with the very stuff of life. It covers the entire span of familiar experience from hirth to death and it speculates on what is (to author, reader, or both) unfamiliar or unknown. It tells us, as nothing else can, what it has felt like to be alive under an inexhaustible diversity of historical and social condi-

Not to be interested in it is unthinkable, surely? Well, no. There is a difference between being interested in your own experience and being interested in what other people have written about theirs. But

even though not everyone is equally given to reflecting on what happens, some capacity for being interested in experience is a basic human attribute. It seems reasonable to suppose that by the time students reach A level standard, they will be competent readers and that by the time some of them go to university they will be well on the way to being literary critics. But again, this is only half-true.

In many casual discussions of reading, literature is assumed to be modern. But most of what we call literature is, in fact, old. And the further back you go in time, the more you need to know in order simply to make sense of a literary text, let alone understand why you should

I once taught Tom Jones (1749) to a very able group of sixth formers. They were interested in the basic is-

sues that could be abstracted from the book and talked freely and fruitfully about whether having a good disposition is just luck, whether honour matters more than piety and whether sexual promiscuity wasn't more reprehensible in the 18th century than now.

The trouble started when we tried to discover more exactly what Fielding thought about such things by closely examining his words. It soon became apparent that these intelligent, well-educated students had difficulty in reading Fielding's prose: the syntax felt too complex, many words bad undergone important changes of meaning and, the whole nace of the narrative was simply too leisurely for their tastes.

The linguistic impediments to reading old books are often more serious than with Fielding. Getting an able and willing undergraduate to

read Chaucer, Malory, Spenser or even Bunyan with any degree of fluency is often very difficult. The popularity of the recent film of Romeo and Juliet depended not only on brilliant camera-work and direction, but on the excision from the text of nearly everything a modern reader might be stumped by. Fair enough; but the new film and the old play are only nominally the same.

My sixth form students had a deeper problem with Tom Jones. They could not easily imagine the system of values underlying the book. This, too, is a problem which gets worse as you go back in time. Most pre-Modernist literature in English is profoundly influenced by Christianity and by classical precedent. Most post-Modernist literature is not. There is thus often a serious disparity of assumptions between old books and modern readers.

Hence what really holds students up in their reading is a sense of a lack of rapport with their authors; and this, combining with more practical difficulties is often enough to dissuade them from further effort. They have, in a word, got bored.

Even modern literature has its problems. Ever since the publication. in the 1920s, of Eliot's The Waste Land, Joyce's Utysses, Pound's Cantos and Woolf's To the Lighthouse, it has been assumed that the best books are the most difficult. Hence there is now a distinction in the publishing trade between "literary" or "original" fiction and the rest.

You know which books are literary from feeling simultaneously an urge to huy them with a disinclination to read them. This equation of literary sophistication with difficulty, occurring at a time when traditional standards of judgement are in disarray, has had disastrous results. The worst, perhaps, it that bad writers are able to cheat diffident

readers into submission by seeming clever. Hence you get the spectacle - still, unfortunately, common - of poets, novelists, playwrights and critics implying that if you can't be bothered to penetrate their obscurities, you must be thick. Youngsters tend to respond to this either by turning away in healthy retaliation, or else by becoming prigs.

Recent poetry and fiction shows signs of regaining its accessibility. And the dominant literary forms not the novel play or lyric poem, but the newspaper article, the screenplay and the song - are in good health. Nonetheless, traditional literature has been culturally marginalized and the dominance of the audio-visual media has fostered hahits of attention unsuited to

later, a "shocked and

stunned" vice-chancellor

announced the first fatality.

No one would envy Reader

or Newby their tasks. But

leisurely, careful reading. The most obvious obstacles to

good reading are lack of the necessary kinds of linguistic knowledge: remoteness from the underlying assumptions of old books and unreaderly habits of attention. Less obvious, but more damaging, however, is the loss of faith in reading as a potential source of wisdom. This has weakened the principal motive for becoming a versatile reader. The job of the teacher of literature is not to sigh appreciatively over masterworks the students have only to open to enjoy, but to promote good. reading by encouraging students to recognise the difficulties that stand in the way of it.

The writer is Director of Studies in English, St Edmund's College, Combridge.

Year of reading, news section, p3

ODDLY ENOUGH

NICK FEARN

Bienvenue à l'enfer: Students and parents in France can now call a government bot-line for help when sadistic initiation rites at top schools go too far. A new law has made bizutage illegal for the first time since Napoleon established it to form a lifelong esprit de corps. The law makes it a criminal offence, punishable by six months in prison and fines of £5,000. Mostly, the practices are harmless: wearing bin liners and being smeared in shaving cream, for instance. But increasingly violent practices have emerged in recent years, especially in military academies and medical schools. It hasn't taken long for the ban to take effect. Stanilas, an élite private high school in Paris, was forced to cancel its annual "orientation" week, and two schools have been shut after students were found locked in rooms.

Fleshly prepared: A recipe once used to prepare human fiesh by Pacific Island carmibals is being revived by researchers to preserve fruit in an effort to expand the region's processed food industry. British food scientist, Richard Beyer, director of the University of the South Pacific's Institute of Applied Science, said he expected the recipe, if marketed properly, to be popular with tourists as a hu-

morous product. "There's a fortime in it," Beyer predicted. "It doesn't matter what is in it because nobody is going to eat it. The tourists are just going to buy it for their mother-in-law."

Space cadets: A Nasa testing station's security has been penetrated by a rocket, but the "invasion" isn't causing any panic. The foot-tall rocket found at the Lewis Phum Brook Station was made of paper and fuelled by eight blue helium balloons. Attached was a note from a class at Lincoln Elementary School in Monroe, Michigan, asking the finder of the rocket to write back. "There's got to be a onein-10 zillion chance of them landing a rocket in a rocket-testing facility," said Robert P Kozar, general manager of the station. Kozar invited the sixthgraders to the centre. "It's the best thing to happen since the school year started," said principal Patty Weisbach.



Conferring in peace: The last time I stayed at Belfast's Europa Hotel, it was bombed. In fact, the Europa was hombed an astonishing 34 times during the Troubles. Yet last week, there it was, still standing tall and proud and comfortable. The ugly security fence in front of the huilding had gone and things felt like they might be returning to "normal". I bad come for the conference of HEERA/CASE (Higher **Education External** Relations Association/ Council for the Advancement and Support of Education). This year's get-together was sponsored by The Independent. But not even this great newspaper could have forecast that the conference was to be the first beld in a Belfast at peace - hopefully a lasting one. "You have come at a historic time." David Alderdice, the Lord Mayor, told delegates as they tucked into a gourmet gala dinner at the majestic City Hall last Saturday night. That very day, British troops had been withdrawn from the streets of Belfast, Antrim and Lisburn. A hopeful sign. Since their arrival, 654 soldiers had

been killed and more than

6,000 injured. Rich Push: One of the scores of seminars dealt with the plethora of existing student guides - and posed the question: "who reads 'em, who needs 'em?" Only five of the major publishers were there to shout their wares, including Mark Meek of The Independent, which publishes YOU CAN! in association with the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service. Unlike most guides, this is not simply a series of listings, hut a glossy, colourful mag with the kinds of articles students find lastingly useful - such as what it is really like moving from A-levels to higher education, and what sex means to the single student. No wonder it is good - its editor is Wendy Berliner, the woman who has the unenviable task of editing me and this paper's Education section, Another panel member was Johnny Rich, managing editor of Push, a thick annual, which has been going for six years and is by students for students. Rich was student union president at Durham University when he first had

WORD OF MOUTH

JOHN IZBICKI



Belfast's Europa hotel, a regular terrorist target

Dressing for crisis: So how does one manage a crisis when it strikes a university? Peter Reader, head of public affairs at Southampton University knows the answer only too well. A couple of years ago, he had to cope with three campus deaths

out of six cases of meningitis. He launched a major meningitis campaign and organised a round-the-clock helpline. Vice-chancellor Howard Newby went on

television to report three

suspected case. Sometime

confirmed and a fourth

everyone working in the field of public relations must be aware of the meticulous preparations that need to be made for the eventuality of a crisis, even down to the clothes one wears. It's no good heing solemn in a Mickey Mouse T-shirt. When the vice-chancellor

went before the cameras, he wore a dark suit and, as it was early November, a single poppy. This kind of dress sense was discussed more fully at another crowded seminar by Julia Campion, an image consultant who runs a company called First impressions and advises MBA students at Cranfield University on how to make an impression at interviews. The British, according to Campion, are among the poorest wardrobe spenders. Less than 10 per cent of incomes goes on clothes, compared with 20 per cent spent by the French and Germans and 40 per cent by the Italians and Japanese.

What crisis? Even while the Belfast conference was University was undergoing its own crisis, as readers of this newspaper will be well aware. Staff are up in arms over attempts to cut one academic in 10 (107 altogether) from the pay roll. Yet very few delegates suspected anything amiss. Two alumni officers - Gerry Power of Queen's and Sue Rees of the University of Ulster - had organised the conference so smoothly and efficiently that any background rumblings went unnoticed

in full swing, Queen's

And finally: Lord Smith of Clifton, vice-chancellor of the University of Ulster (Trevor Smith as was when senior vice-principal of Queen Mary and Westfield College, London University), delivered a splendid keynote. He lambasted the Russell Group of would-be Ivy League universities for being too large in its pretensions and proposed that schools, from nurseries to secondaries should be joined to universities. At the end, when he was thanked for so wide-ranging a speech, he quipped: "I'm also available for bar mitzvahs."

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PAR - MARIE AND RE attern seem

to an a dame. Control of the State of ACTUMENTS A New New York Trans die Beleft

End of the great tuition fee scare

Universities are still filling up, despite the newly introduced £1,000 annual tuition fee. Lucy Hodges examines why



latic Allen; attending university near her home in an attempt to save money

Richard Rayner

students still sign up for university despite the introduction this three of the £1,000 tuition fee? Nationly, figures show there has been no fallf in the numbers applying to higher lucation as young people scramble to get toehold in what is called "the knowledge xiety". There has been no fall in young ople applying to university from the wer socio-economic groups and there is even been a rise in the number of Engh students applying for and being acpted by Scottish universities mething which was not expected at all. egrees north of the border take four ars, so students have to pay the £1,000

: for four years instead of three. "I think that most students, particularly se leaving school, understand that their ances of a successful and satisfying ca-er are enhanced by going to university," 78 Martin Harris, chairman of the Comttee of Vice Chancellors and Principals ich is holding its annual conference this ek in Manchester. "Their families are pared to make the extra investment that

l help them to achieve thet goal." other university bosses agree. ople want higher education," says sley Wagner, principal of Leeds Metolitan University. "It's become almost ential now for any decent career and can have a nice time for three years le you're studying - certainly in Leeds." lowever, within this "good news" story, re is a more complicated picture.

by is it that the doom Although applications from traditional mongers have been. 18-year-old students have held up, those in itself, reflects a trend, because applications from adults have been on the decline for a number of years. But the drop is slightly bigger this year. It is possible that the £1,000 fee has acted as a deterrent, though it's also possible that the demand from adults for university eduction

has become saturated. Second, students' tastes are changing, according to Tony Higgins, chief executive of the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service. Whereas, in the past, they might have chosen a degree leading to one of the "caring" professions such as teaching social work and nursing increasingly they are opting for courses that will take them directly into well-paying jobs, such as computing.

That shift may be related to the fees, the phasing out of grants and the student loan scheme, says Higgins. "Students know they'll have a bigger debt to pay off at the end of their graduation, so maybe they're taking subjects that will help them."

Perhaps reflecting this trend, some universities, notably the former polytechnics, are suffering a drop in applications this year - just as some experts predicted. The pattern seems to be that they are being hit in the social sciences and humanities. subjects which are not narrowly vocational and do not lead directly into work. That change is exactly what experts such as Alan Smithers, the Sydney Jones Professor of Education at Liverpool University, predicted would happen in the new higher education marketplace.

WHAT KATIE DID

THE DAUGHTER of a fitter and a shop assistant in Cleveland, Katie Allen, 18, was not sure she would be able to go to university when the Government announced the new financial arrangements - the £1,000 tuition fee, the phasing out of the grant and the new income-contingent loans scheme. But with two A-levels under her belt and with the active support of her parents, she has decided to take up a place to study social sciences at Teeside, her local university. The big advantage of Teeside is that she can live at home and save on accommodation costs.

The University of East London, for example, is experiencing a drop in demand for degrees in social sciences, including economics and anthropology, and a drift in-stead to business studies. The university's vice chancellor. Frank Gould, sees it as part of a trend. Students are beginning to oot for vocational degrees, he thinks. Subjects being hit are sociology, cultural studies and

the humanities - but not English. The University of Hertfordshire, formerly Hatfield Polytechnic, is finding applications down in exactly the same areas, though its overall application numbers are holding up. "We're also seeing problems - really for the first time - in humanities," says Dr Stephen Boffey, director of admissions. "There's one explanation which is that we have quite a lot of mature stuyou have the better when it comes to a career. "I've wanted to go to university since I was young," she says. "I want to be a policewoman eventually, so I'm going to transfer in my second year to the criminology course if I can." dents on our humanities course and mature students are being hit by the fees. But we're not doing at all badly in other areas. Computing is bursting and we're also finding that we're doing very well in sciences.

She also has a job locally, working as

teaching swimming, which she will

a lifeguard at the swimming pool and

continue with. She will pay her £1,000

fee from the money she has saved up

with a little belp from her parents. It

is important to go to university, she says, because the more qualifications

over the summer from her job, and

hitting targets with engineering, which again is going against the trends." In the course of the applications round this year, Dr Boffey did not find that the £1,000 fee was an issue for students except that he got a lot of people wanting to be released in the clearing process to live near to home. That supports other anecdotal evidence that students like Katie Allen, above) are choosing to attend the university near where they live to save money.

which surprised us, and we're pretty well

At the University of North London (UNL) it's a similar picture. Humanities, including

history, philosophy, English and European such as Queen Mary and Westfield (OMW) been very turbulent and there has been significant deterrence of mature students." says vice chancellor Brian Roper

"Applicants are saying: 'Can I have a place and can I take it next year?' and we're saying. Why? The fees aren't going to go away,' and they're saying. We're

going to have to save up the money'." Applications by mature students to UNL are down 15 to 25 per cent this year, according to Roper, and that percentage is significant because the university is so heavily dependent on mature students. They form around three-quarters of the university's intake.

Roper is fed up with the university admissions system which involves students applying before their A level results and receiving offers conditional on students making specified grades. Those who don't make their grades enter the clearing system and take part in a matching procedure which match students with vacancies. The system creates uncertainty for all concerned. "We really must have a situation - I hope from next year onwards - where students are applying having their results

New universities such as UNL were heavy users of the clearing process this year in the hope that it would fill up their courses. Indeed, last Friday, when one of The Independent's clearing supplement appeared, both old and new universities filled up 22 pages of the supplement with their offerings. Some observers have been surprised to see traditional universities

and Royal Holloway colleges in London as well as Sussex University appearing in clearing this year at this late stage. Were

they experiencing problems in finding students this year?

The new principal of QMW, Adrian Smith, was not available for comment, A spokeswoman for Royal Holloway said the college had been seeking 400 students through clearing in subjects such as history, management, computer sciences, ssics, physics, maths and music. But the college had not lowered its entry requirements or been reduced to advertising. Last week it was still below target in social policy and languages. Sussex said it had not experienced particular problems but in last week's clearing supplement it was still

seeking takers across a range of courses. So, although most vice chancellors gathering in Manchester this week will be congratulating themselves on their student numbers holding up and on the work they have done to ensure students understand the new financial arrangements and the value of a degree, they will also be aware that the new marketplace in higher education could mean turbulence ahead. They are not counting their chickens.

Dr Michael Goldstein, vice chancellor of Coventry University, said his university had not yet met its targets on student nunbers but expected to do so. At the same time, he couldn't be sure, just as other universities couldn't be sure, that all the students who had signed up would actually turn up when term started. "In some areas we're not sure," he said. "In some areas we're going to get withdrawals."

A nation still hung up on vowel length

OH DEAR, oh dear! The press has had a field day this summer with the news about the docker's son who became a Cambridge don and then humiliated a girl from Exex during her interview with him to get a place at the university. Journalists streamed onto the field of battle from all sides: the don was brilliant and misunderstood; he had a quirky sense of playful ironic humour; Ms Playle had obviously over-reacted, due to the stress of the interview; she just wasn't sharp enough to cope with a truly penetrating mind.

Or, the other side countered, Ms Playle was a very bright woman who had been reduced to tears and walked out of the room, unwilling to face a barrage of snobbish ranting from an unpleasant hully who has since been forced to apologise. Widening the terms, some wrote about how incidents like this unlernthe all the attempts to attract tudents from the state sector to they serve a very useful purpose,

Oxbridge. Apply to Cambridge and you too might be linguistically challenged. And so one unfortunate episode is then turned into a campaign.

Ms Playle is coming to my own

university, where she will be warmly welcomed and where she will, I hope, enjoy her English degree with us. I am sorry that she had such a distressing interview at Cambridge and I admire ber courage in going public about it and requesting an apology. But to sug-gest that one man's had manners is representative of our ancient universities is ridiculous. We have all met people who show off at the expense of others, and it cannot be said that one institution has a mo-

nopoly on arrogance. Equally ridiculous is the proposition put forward by some that all interviews should be abolished and replaced with paperwork. Interviews are never pleasant, but

THE VIEW FROM HERE



SUSAN BASSNETT

and an interview for university can help prepare students for job interviews later. At my daughter's school, parents turn up once a year on a Saturday morning and work with the staff on mock interviews for all the A level candidates. Other schools please note.

What depresses me about this case is the importance people in this country still attach to accents. You can't turn on the radio or TV without encountering dozens of different accents, and yet we are still hung up on the idea of perfect received pronunciation (RP). We must be the only country in the world where an ideal version of the language exists that is not actually spoken in any geographical

We may have the idea of a class-

less society, of cool Britannia and all that, but a lot of ordinary people seem hell-bent on erasing traces of their local origins. Eric Griffiths, the academic in question, started out life as a Liverpool docker's son, and yet seems to have felt that he needed to acquire an accent as camp as a row of pink frilly tents in order to get on in life. Similarly, Lady Thatcher invested time and, presumably, also money in losing her Grantham hurr, and she still gets her pronouns wrong. Why do the English do it in this day

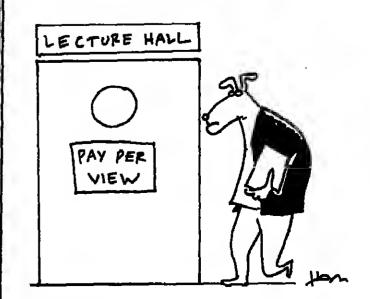
The links between class, status and accent used to be obvious once upon a time. These days, with members of the royal family speaking estnary English and children of RP-speaking parents doing their utmost to acquire an Essex, Brummie or Liverpool accent in order to have playground credibility, it is surely time to accept that English has changed forever. I hope Tracey Playle hangs on to her Essex accent and responds to anyone who success at her in future with the

contempt they deserve. But equally, I hope Dr Griffiths takes a long, hard look at himself and seeks an answer to the questions of why he feels he needs to dress himself up in borrowed linguistic finery and pretend to be a toff Brilliant you may be, Eric, but you're out of touch. The future belongs to our Tracey.

The writer is Pro-vice chancellor of the University of Warwick

HAM'S VIEW

FOOTBALL STUDIES



YOUR VIEWS

. . .

Distorted picture of Queen's

IN HIS letter defending the Queen's University, Belfast, Academic Plan (Your Views, EDUCATION, 10 September) Pro-Vice-chancellor Andrew referred to the "discontinuation of a small number of subjects which are no longer viable". It is hard not to feel some sympathy for any academic charged with putting an acceptable spin on some very hasty and unacceptable corporate decisions but Professor Andrew's use of the word "viable" in this context is so esoteric that some explanation is necessary to avert

misunderstanding. Geology is the largest of the departments scheduled for closure at Queen's. It is the only university geology department in Northern Ireland and, though small by UK standards, the largest of five in Ireland, graduating 27 students in 1998, six of them with first class honours. It will soon exist only as a case history of the madness of management driven only by consideration of the next ment exercise, playing fantasy football with real careers.

The staff of the department have been told by the Vice-chancellor that closure has nothing to do with financial viability. Nor has viability anything to do with teaching. Geology is the only science faculty department at Queen's to be graded "excellent" for its teaching provision (Higher Education Funding Council Teaching Quality Assessment 1995), but that is apparently quite irrele-

Geology is being "discontinued", with all the distress and misery this word embodies for staff, students and graduates, simply because the university management believes it is unlikely to ohtain Grade 4 in the Research Assessment Exercise of 2001. Geology at Queen's was the smallest, or equal smallest, Earth Science Department to obtain Grade 3 in each of the last two UK assessment exercises (1992 and 1996), and in 1992 the only one to seek and gain that grade in recognition of the applied nature of its research. In the context of size this is a creditable performance. Grade 3 is the average national grade in the Earth Sciences; only Geology teaching departments twice the size of that at Queen's, and the research establishments at Reading and at Newcastle, were awarded research Grades 4 and 5. Dr Bernard Anderson Head of Geology Department at Queen's University 1990-96, School of Geosciences The Queen's University of Belfast

As a member of academic staff at Queen's University targeted for early retirement, I wish to make something quite clear to those who have now read Prof Malcolm Andrew's letter.

I do not have a weak research record. I have produced in my 24 years at Queen's 52 publications. This is a meritable output and my research receives international respect. I am only judged as a weak researcher by the incredible standards now required by Queen's in order to justify retention. My acknowledged contribution to the teaching of plant science at Queen's is seemingly

not valued. I am on the Editorial Advisory Boards for the Journal of Biological Education and Biologist - both journals of the Institute of Biology. My appointment as a **Teaching Quality Assessment specialist** reviewer for UK universities over the next two years will best be fulfiled if I remain involved with teaching in my present post

What is at stake here is our answer to the fundamental question "What is a university?" Universities should be places where there is a symbiosis between teaching and research. Students



Most teachers are genuinely interested in their pupils and liaise with parents in a positive and caring way. See 'No war zone'.

mass before it can rate highly in the RAE. It is not, and will never be, possible for some departments in Queen's to achieve this, but that does not mean that Northern Ireland does not need Geology, Italian and Semitic Studies.

Similarly, research in Queen's should not be exclusively concentrated on areas that are going to achieve the highest RAE rating ("international").

Northern Ireland needs the informed skills of locally-based academics for research into our complex problems which will not always be rated of international standing but the value of which to our communal future can hardly be measured. Dr JENNIFER FITZGERALD Senior Lecturer.

The Queen's University of Belfast "There is no evidence to support the commonly beld prejudice that staff who make a substantial contribution to research do so by neglecting their teaching." In saying this, Prof Andrew is clearly unaware of the substantial body

of research evidence - admittedly most-

ly American and Australian - which supcent of our school-leaving undergraduports that view. The criteria invoked to abandon sub-However the risk that research-active jects in Queen's include the necessity for staff will neglect their students has rea department to achieve a critical staff cently been confirmed by work at Oxford

Brookes University. My question for Pro-fessor Andrew is whether the students at Queen's University have been consulted on this issue, and whether they are happy to have an increasing amount of teaching carried out by people whose top-most priority is research? Dr ROGER BROWN-

Principal, Southampton Institute

Downside of research

My daughter has had first hand experience of the importance placed on research as opposed to students and teaching, while undertaking MA studies in Renaissance Literature at a prestigious London University college.

Throughout this year she has had only one essay marked and both she and her student colleagues have seen their assignments consigned to a box in the faculty office for a se-

As an enthusiastic and committed student of English Literature who has a deep knowledge and love of her subject, she had hoped to continue on through the academic system and teach. Her experiences of the lack of student support and the emphasis

ers may abuse power, but so may stu-dents. Yes, marriages can be damaged by such affairs, but then again, they can

occasionally be made by them.

I don't deny that, generally, it is immature and unprofessional for acade.

mics to behave in this way. But we should not let the reality of exploitation lead to crude caricatures of these situations, or to over- zealous disciplinary procedures. PIERS BENN

Lecturer, School of Philosophy University of Leeds

Stricter marking?

Tony Mooney's problem ŒDUCATION, 3 September) has nothing to do with the introduction of the modular system but is instead caused by the fact that teachers assess the laboratory work in some A-level science courses and this assessed mark contributes 20 per cent to the final A-level grade. But at the same time league tables of school results are published so that there is immense pressure on the science

teachers to get the best results. I am not suggesting that science teachers would do anything as crude as marking something right that is wrong but there are many subtle ways of indicating what is coming up for assessment, eg by doing something ver similar the previous week.

Nationwide, students do brilliantly on ssessed coursework, far better than on the corresponding theory papers or practical exam; so perhaps the exam boards are just trying to correct for this inflation. After all they have been criticised for letting standards slip. JOHN BAKER East Sussex

No war zone

The title of Elizabeth Hartley-Brewer's article, "How parents can learn to talk" to the enemy" ŒDUCATION, 3 September) gives the impression of a state of war in the schools between teachers and parents. The article depicts teachers as not only unhelpful, but also aggressive and negative towards parents.

Brian Harris Of course, it is true that a small minority of teachers will exhibit these characteristics, as one would expect in any large employment group. However, the majority of teachers, in my experience, are genuinely interested in their pupils and give considerable time to liaising with parents in a positive and

Ms Hartley-Brewer's somewhat patronising suggestions about how to improve relationships between teachers and parents are likely to be applicable... tar all teachers with the same brush will have thoroughly depressed them, particularly as many of them will have been returning to their first days

teaching in a new academic year. The article is offensive and divisive and will serve only to make an already extremely difficult job even more so. JOHN SHERRINGTON Truro,

Cornwall

Please send your letters to Wendy Berliner, Editor, Education +, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5DL. Include a daytime telephone number. Fax letters to Education + on 0171-293 2451; e-mail:educ@independent.co.uk. Letters may be edited

PASSED/FAILED ED STOURTON, BBC REPORTER

should always be put first. The worth of

an academic should not be judged solely

level 4 or above in the research assess-

Queen's is not in an analogous situation

to the universities of Sheffield, Leeds

and Manchester to which Prof Andrew

compares it. Because of the proliferation

of academic institutions in the English

regions, it is likely that the needs of the

region in teaching, research and devel-

opment will be met by diverse providers.

The University of Manchester may well

compete with its regional counterparts to achieve a high RAE ranking, without

for Northern Ireland, with only two de-

gree and post-degree institutions, suf-

provision: the crisis in student places

which would normally result is only averted by the fact that we export 40 per

fers from a deficit of university

fear of leaving vital functions unprovided

on whether their research reaches a

Dr PAUL CLIFFORD CBiol MIBiol

Lecturer, School of Biology and

The Queen's University of Belfast

ment exercise.

Ed Stourton, 40, presents the One O'Clock News on BBCL He has been the Washington correspondent and diplomatic editor of ITN and present ed Call Ed Stourton for Radio 4. Faith in the Frontline, his R4 series on Catholicism which begins with Father Charlie Brown of the Vatican ideological police, runs from Monday to Friday, from next week. Absolute Truth, the title of his BBC2 four-parter and also the book of the series, starts on 27 September

At eight, I was sent to Avisford in Sussex, a family-run Catholic prep school where the headmaster had 11 children. It was - for a certain type of outgoing, self-confident boy - a garden of Eden. My chief memories of those years are of hazy summer fields seen from the top of a tree. At the age of 12 I found a halfeaten sausage in the holy-water stoop of the chapel. My fellow prefects and I went about our search for the culprit with a grim determination; we all knew that we were in the presence of evil!

Ed start? At 12 I was rather large and the headmaster said, "Go to Ampleforth" (the Benedictine monastery and public school in a North Yorkshire valley). I left a term early and got a minor scholarship to Ampleforth.

Scooting along to vespers? I remember looking at my house and thinking it

was huge - and that it was the whole school. The emblem of the school was "The Grid". The monastery was the abbey of St Lawrence, who was barbecued and who said: "Turn me over." The Grid was what he was grilled on; we had . a bit of his charred arm in the abbey church. The Grid was the school magazine; I was one of the team of editors. Much of the teaching was done by monks. It was religion with a light touch - it was taken seriously but they were not grim about it. You could go to vespers: monks chanting, which now gets to the top of the charts.

Chinese torture? Trinity College, Cambridge, gave me a place on the strength of my four A-levels and then I got an exhibition. I had done Mandarin O-level and when I went for

the interview, I hadn't decided whether to read Chinese or English. The don who taught Mandarin was incredibly fierce: You will spend all afternoons with headphones on in the language laboratory!
You will do nothing else!" The English
don was kind and said, "See you in September". Then I decided: I read English.

After the first-year exams, my director of studies took me for a walk in the Fellows Garden and said, "There is a chance you could get a first but you'd have to do nothing else - and then you might not get it." I became president of Cambridge Union. I'd done a certain amount of speaking at school, when I was on the Ampleforth debating team that won the Observer mace.

I got a 2.1. The kind English don who had interviewed me may have been connected to the security services because, after going down, several of us taught by him got letters from an illegible signature somewhere in Whitehall - MI5 or MI6, clearly the spies: "It has been suggested that you might be interested in a post in the field of foreign affairs not covered by the usual diplomatic entry procedures." I replied, "Thank you very much but I've got a job at ITN." They wrote back saying, "Let us know if you change your mind before you're 27." Why 27, I don't know.

JONATHAN SALE

Age: Thirty, if you count from when the New University of Ulster was born in 1968, or 14, from its merger with Ulster Poly.

History: Origins date from Magee College in Londonderry founded by a local philanthropist in 1865. Other constituent parts were tacked on later: the Belfast campus came into being when the art college was gobbled up by Ulster Poly in 1971. Jordanstown was formerly the campus of Ulster Poly.

Address: Four different sites spread out over Northern Ireland - up to 80 miles apart.

Ambience: Depends on campus. Belfast, housing art and design, is the smallest site. Derry site is attractive, just north of the walled city. Coleraine, the university's HQ, is a small, quiet market town a few miles from lovely Antrim coast with countryside all around. Jordanstown is the largest site and still expanding. Situated on the hills above Belfast, it has good views over the Lough.

Vital statistics: More than 21.000 students make it the biggest university in Ireland.

A-Z OF UNIVERSITIES

ULSTER

placed upon research has left her

of recruiting committed and caring

teaching staff then there have to be

Joanna Norris (Your Views, Education,

10 September), whose lecturer husband

had an affair with a student, it is irra-

tional to conclude that draconian mea-

sures are needed to prevent lecturers

from having affairs with their students.

Teachers advice seems sound enough:

such relationships should be avoided,

is examined by other staff members,

but if they happen then steps should be

taken to ensure that the student's work

To call for more American-style polic-

ing shows ignorance of the range of mo-

tives, circumstances and consequences

of such affairs. Of course, there are a

few lecherous egomaniaes who serially

seduce students, but there can also be sincere romantic attachments. Lectur-

The present Association of University

If universities are to have any hope

disillusioned, to say the least.

other methods of assessment.

Internal affairs

SUZANNE WARD

Brighton



Added value: Links with further education colleges make for accessibility. And the university is about to announce a revolutionary new credit transfer system.

Easy to get into? For optometry you need AAB at A-level; for geography CDD; for engineering BCC.

Glittering alumni: Labour MP Kate Hoey; Gerry Anderson, radio presenter: Brian Friel, Eurovision songwriter; Brian Keenen, ex-hostage; Brian Robinson. Irish rugby player. Transport links: Trains

and coaches ply between Coleraine, Belfast and Derry. Flights go almost everywhere from Belfast

Who's the boss? Prof Trevor Smith, a fervent Lib Dem who was made a peer and is now Lib Dem education spokesman in the House of Lords.

International airport.

Teaching: Rated 17 out of 24 for sociology, 18 for Iberian languages and studies, 19 for German and civil engineering; 20 for French and electrical and electronic engineering, 21

for land and property management, and communications and media 22 for theatre studies and American studies.

Research: Came 55 out of 101 in the assessment exercise. Achieved tip-top 5* in biomedical sciences and a 5 in history.

Financial health: In the red for the last three years, according to Noble's Higher Education Financial Yearbook. In 1996-97, the latest year for which figures are available, it was overdrawn by more than 23.5m. Ulster disagrees.

Nightlife: Plenty of pubs in Derry. Social life for Coleraine students is in the seaside towns where they live. Jordanstone has three bars and its Assembly Hall.

Cheap to live in? Yes. Three-bed council house to rent for £40 per week. Single room in hall costs £34.16 a week. Private furnished lets are around £300 a month for a threebed house or flat.

Buzzword: What about ye? (How're you doing?)

Next week: UMIST

LUCY HODGES

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A PhD Just isn't enough

Career management is now a vital skill for postgraduate students. By Stephen Pritchard

gineering who stay on at university to take a research degree face an intellectual challenge, but also a fragmented and conusing job market. For a bright scientist or meer, a doctorate is a respectable caeer move which opens the door to a career as an academic, or in research in ndustry. But even though grants are easier to come by than in the arts and humanities, the cost of further study, not least the loss of earnings from foregoing a graduate salary, is putting students off in fields where they can command impressive pay cheques.

Heads of departments in fields such as computer sciences and chemical engineering say postgraduate places are hard to fill. as good graduates can command salaries of £20,000 or more in the private sector. By contrast, the best-paid studentship is unlikely to be more than half that sum. "These people could be offered between £16,000 and £20,000 to start are being asked to stay on at university on less than £10,000," confirms Professor P J Hegg, head of the chemical engineering department at UMIST. These people have to be very dedicated."

the picture, though, is different in other parts of science. Biological and life sciences have low starting salaries, fewer commercial jobs, and more intensive competition for postgraduate places. Nor is money the only factor. In pure or

fundamental science, a PhD will be the prerequisite for promotion in many jobs, even outside the university sector. In engi-

neering, it is less relevant. "Life sciences are different from phys-

raduates in science and en- ical sciences and engineering is different again," explains Mike Gavin, careers adviser at Cambridge University.

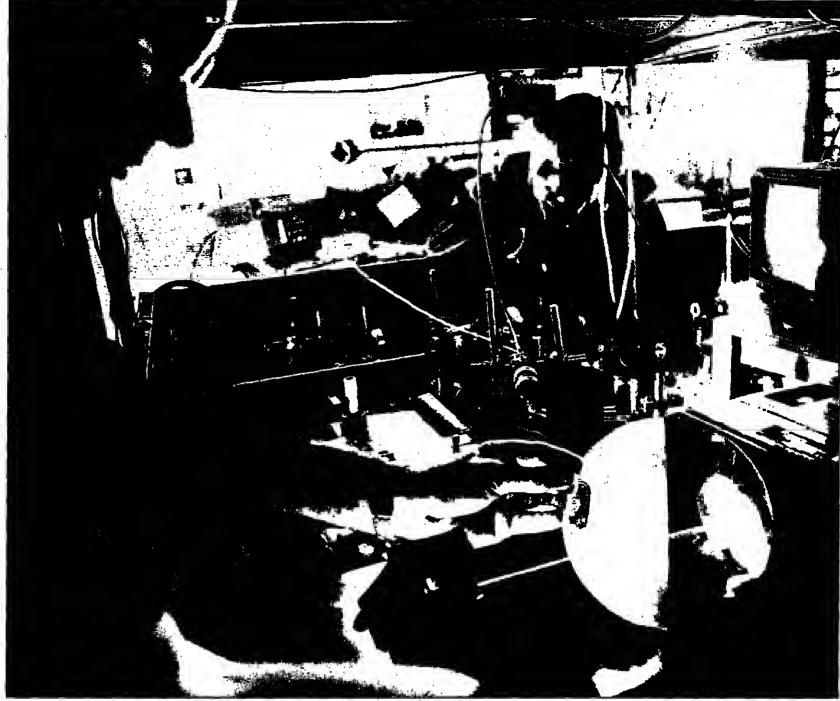
The difficulty for graduates embarking on a higher degree in any discipline is that there is no guarantee at all of work at the end of the process. The supply of PhD places is not tied to any quota of academic appointments, post-doctoral research posts, or jobs in industry. Instead, the limiting factor is the pockets of the research councils, which fund the state studentship scheme, or of students themselves.

More PhD graduates are going on to careers in commercial research and in business generally, helped by the training in transferable skills such as communications, presentations and IT which most doctoral students now receive. Academia is still the prime choice of many, though, and even a PhD is often not enough to obtain a lecturer's job. Instead, a period of between one and three years as a postdoctoral research fellow is the normal next stage.

"The availability of lectureships is not high, so even if you do a PhD, and follow it with a research fellowship, you would not be guaranteed a job in research. But you would have to do that to be qualified for one." Mike Gavin explains.

At each stage in the research career ladder, from first degree to permanent university appointment, the number of applicants falls off - but so does the number of vacancies, Broadly, according to universities, the system is in balance, until the newly qualified researchers complete their post-doctoral work.

Then, their age and experience, which should be an advantage, can go against



Postgraduate research in the physical sciences opens doors but there are pitfalls

John Lawrence

the research councils, which have to justify spending larger sums on salaries for better-qualified researchers. Doing so perienced candidates find themselves priced out of the market.

According to Professor Bill Wakeham, pro-rector for research and development at Imperial College London, there are enough initial postdoctoral posts to satisfy most applicants, if they are prepared to them. Most postdoctoral work is funded by move around, either within the UK uni-

versity system, or to Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

"The crunch comes after three years," would mean fewer awards all round, so ex- Professor Wakeham explains. "No university can afford many people purely doing research, so they are on short term contracts from universities or research councils. But as they get older, they become more expensive, so finding money to fund them becomes more difficult."

One initiative designed to help is the Concordat for research staff, drawn up beand the universities. The idea behind the Concordat is to give university staff whose primary work is in research, rather than teaching, a properly managed career path.

The Concordat has brought improvements in training, and careers advice, but it has done little to address the shortage of academic appointments in general, and

pure research posts in particular. This does not mean that researchers in science and engineering cannot find re-

tween the research councils, the unions warding work. Trends including the teaching pressures on lecturers, and the growing importance of inter-disciplinary study, which can often only be handled by people with the experience and knowledge a PhD brings, are widening the field.

For the ambitious scientist, though, the facts are that there may be the jobs, but there are not as many careers. For new PhD students, career management will rank alongside research techniques in the skills they will have to develop.

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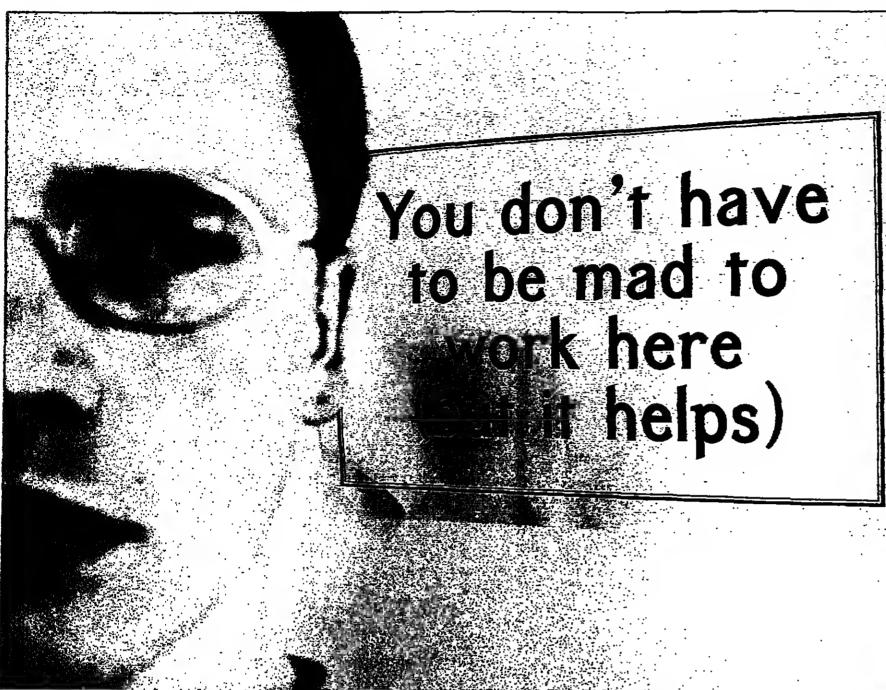
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FAST TRACK

GRADUATING TO THE WORLD OF WORK



The only explanation for the spread of such witticisms is that they satisfy some kind of need in the worker's psyche

Nicola Kurtz

Think you're funny? Tell it to the boss

Developing a sense of humour to go with your job can be a funny old thing. By Jenny Madden

THERE'S AN Alas Smith and Jones sketch from many years ago which goes something like this; Socrates is sitting at the bar of a pub in ancient Greece dispensing nuggets of philosochical wisdom to the uninterested barman when another customer walks up. While buying a drink, he comments: "You don't have to be mad to work here, but it helps!" Upon this, the bar manager looks greatly excited and exclaims: "That's the best thing I've ever heard. I'll write it down and put it up behind the bar!" (Much to poor Socrates' disgust).

Humorous notices of the "You don't have to be mad to work here" type are an institution. Visit shops, offices, pubs and restaurants across the country and you'll find them nestling among the other notices on the wall or pinned to a computer or till. While these are often crude, handwritten copies of signs someone has seen or photocopies of an original, the only explanation for the spread of such witticisms is that they satisfy some kind of need in the worker's psyche.

Some workplaces make a point of humour Soho hang-out The Dive Bar is covered in such placards. Some of the reminders to staff read: Tell me again how lucky I am to included them in the range for many work here, I keep forgetting"; "Stu- years: these days, it seems, office hu-

pid mistakes are always made by others, we only make unavoidable errors"; and "In case of atomic attack, keep calm, don't panic, run like hell and pay your bili".

Bar manager Mike Cowell says the wife of the boss has been adding slogans to the bar for many years. "She's been collecting them since the early Eighties," he says. And does she really find them funny, or is this some kind of kitsch statement? Mr Cowell says it's not meant to be kitsch: "She finds these things genuinely funny, not naff."

While The Dive Bar may have turned into something of a shrine to this kind of humour, the most common place you'll find the humorous poster or placard lurking is in the reception areas, typing pools and kitchens of offices across Britain. There, they exist to brighten up the dull moments, even when the joke has long since ceased to be funny.

So who makes these things, and are they still in mass production? Lindsey Parsons, at Southamptonpased giftware manufacturers Russberry, remembers that when the company started up in the Sixties, humorous placards were all the rage. But she says they haven't

mour has grown up - in Britain, at least. "There's just not the demand for that sort of thing any more: it's too American for the British sense

of humour," she claims.

Ms Parsons does appear to have a point. Some would argue that itish humour is renowned for cru-

Office humour functions like the material of comedian Brian Conley - more of a comfort valve than an attempt to induce mirth

elty and insight, and for the unique flavour of its dark comedy. According to this line of thinking, the only place a "You don't have to be mad to work here but it helps!" notice would summon a laugh would be hanging in the offices of an organisation such as MIND, which employs some staff who have suffered from men-

But in most other locations, these notices are considered old-fashioned and jokey. Office humour functions in the same way as the material of a comedian like Brian Conley, it's more of a comfort valve than a proactive attempt to induce mirth, but it nevertheless still finds a place in some people's hearts.

The easy accessibility of the office photocopier probably explains why once one office humour poster has got into the office, it can spread throughout, bored staff pasting legends into every corner, such as "Our boss is always right; misinformed perhaps, sloppy, crude, bullheaded, bad-tempered, fickle and even stupid but never wrong!" and "Rule No.1: The boss is always right. Rule No.2: If the boss is wrong see No.1".

Oddly enough, while these digs at the boss might be considered risqué, it's often the boss who introduces the office humour into the workplace first. Could this attempt at giving the staff packaged and controlled weapons of protest be aimed at stopping them from actually talking back or complaining? This is the the-ory of Ben Spieman, the ad sales manager on a London legal magazine, who recently grew so weary of his boss's ardour for collecting and pinning up office humour posters in every office.

that he led an insurrection by encouraging fellow workers to illustrate "You don't have to be mad to work here, but it helps" placards with their own interpretations of madness. "Office humour is just a purchasable dissent, an accepted outlet for dissatisfaction. It's as oppressive a part of the office as fluorescent

lighting," Spieman explains.
It is a well-known truism that the British find it difficult to complain. Perhaps office humour's success is down to the way it provides a means of articulating our resentment at work but in a non-confrontational and ultimately ineffective manner. Brits are often happier to make jokes in the "mustn't grumble" vein than they are to confront their superiors and voice dissatisfaction. Office humour is like the modern-day blitz spirit - meant to keep you smiling through, no matter what the

And that's why office humour is here to stay. In the days where almost everyone has access to photocopiers, faxes and now e-mail, office humour has taken on a life of its own. It may not be purchased in the quantity it once was, but it will exist and multiply as long as there is a bored, mischievous little devil

A-Z OF EMPLOYERS JOHNSON MATTHEY

Age: 181 "and still going strong".

History: The grandly-named Percival Norton Johnson, an assayer and gold refiner, established his husiness in London's Hatton Garden in 1817, but it was not until 34 years later that he formed a partnership with George Matthey. In 1891, the business became a limited company; nearly a century on, it turned into a plc. Johnson Matthey's reputation is established in technology for precious metals and materials; it pioneered industrial application of platinum group metals, used in fields as diverse as air pollution control and anticancer treatments. Other uses are in manufacture of fine chemicals and the generation of clean energy in fuel cells.

Address: Head office is in London, just off Trafalgar Square, but the company is multinational and operates in 38 countries. It also has 17 sites in the UK, and a sponsored programme in the United States.

Ambience: While the company is global, individuals are easily "noticed", says a spokesman. There is a decentralised structure, with four operating divisions (precious metals, catalytic systems, electronic materials and ceramic materials), with a company-wide policy of open communication and team spirit Innovation and the Japanese "kaizen" theory (continuous improvement) are also part of the corporate culture. Employees, claims a spokesman, "tend to stay with the company for many years". The Corporate Research Foundation reports that the company is characterised by fast decision-making and local responsibility, together with a reputation for integrity. "The Johnson Matthey of today is much less hureaucratic, and a

Vital statistics: The company is listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a constituent of the FTSE-250.

It employs 12,600 people globally, with more than half in the US. Last year's operating profit was £139.2m, with a before-tax profit of £130.2m.

Lifestyle: Graduates are drawn quickly into customerservice teams "and given the opportunity to shine". There is plenty of opportunity for bright sparks to travel and move to different positions within the

Easy to get into? Sparky, action-oriented people will thrive at this company: clones should not apply. Just 15 graduates will be recruited in the next year (more are recruited in the US), and those with languages have an advantage, although any type of degree will do if you are after a sales or marketing position. Those with science and engineering degrees chemistry, metallurgy and chemical and automotive engineering, in particular - are considered for research, development and production.

Glittering alumni: None to speak of, although three board members have clocked up nearly 100 years of service hetween them.

Pay: Salaries are reputedly competitive, and progression is performance-linked.

Training: An intensive husiness training programme consists of a series of two-day modules for graduate recruits, while there is also on-the-job training. Fast-track middle managers can join a management development programme, and senior managers may end up on a course at INSEAD or Harvard.

Facilities: Most offices have canteens; sports and social clubs - including five-a-side football teams - are based at different sites.

is chief executive, having joined in 1962 and progressed through running all the company's sectors. RACHELLE THACKRAY



Johnson Matthey: 12,600 employees worldwide

I don't want to give in to these bullying tactics

Dear Help Desk SOME TIME ago I agreed redundancy terms with my boss after eight years with the same company. The agreement was that if I worked for a further six-month period I would get certain benefits. This was confirmed in writing. Now the period is over and my boss is saying that since I have had time to get another position, he has reduced the amount to be paid. My attempts to argue my case for what was agreed have only resulted in several bitter rows. He has told me that if I fight his decision

not only will he withdraw his reduced

offer but he will also make it difficult

for me to get another job. I have a

week to agree or face the conse-

anxiety about this situation and, at 50 years old, I am finding getting another joh very hard. My wife thinks I should accept what I am What would be your advice?

Phillip Wood, head of Employment Unit, Maxwell Butley Solicitors.

Your boss is misguidedly relying upon an established legal principle, that following his breach of the agreement it is up to you to mitigate your loss. If you fail to do so to a reasonable extent, any compensation which a court awards you could be reduced to reflect that failure. quences. I am not sleeping due to That duty to mitigate only arises.

offered and go without making a fuss. however, once the hreach has occurred. You will not be penalised for failing to look for or find another job during the final six months of your employment. You have two choices. You could refuse the reduced amount and sue your employer for

the original agreed amount, or accept the reduced amount now and then sue for the balance on the basis that you only did so under duress. Given your employer's threats (which could constitute blackmail), it may be better to pursue the latter course once you have found and started another job.

HELP DESK

YOUR CAREER PROBLEMS SOLVED

chologist, Acker Deboeck & Com-Your boss is playing it tough in the hope that you will go quietly for less money than was agreed. He is pressuring you to accept his revised offer by imposing a time limit and threatening to make it difficult for you to find another job. However you have the upper hand as you have written evidence of the original agreement. What your boss is doing is not only unethical, it is illegal. Why is your boss attempting to do this to you?

Nick Shannon, occupational psy- cure and he thinks that by saving some money on your redundancy he will establish some credit. You can turn the tables and avoid the unpleasantness of confronting him again by referring the matter upwards. Set out your situation clearly in a letter to your boss's superior, enclosing a copy of the original terms that were agreed, with a copy to your boss. Insist that the company stick to what was agreed, and ask for a prompt resolution. In the meantime you might contact your solicitor to find out what the legal proceedings Perhaps his own situation is not seare should it become necessary.

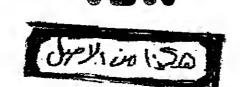
Counselling Association, says: Some people relish a fight, finding it brings out the best in them, while others feel ground down and depressed. It sounds like you belong in the second camp, and if you are not sleeping now, how will you feel if this dispute takes 18 months to grind through the courts? I was in the same situation where I was made redundant and not being offered what my contract stipulated. Believing that each of us has only so much emotional energy, I thought I would do better using mine to look to the future. It is on old cliché, but as one door closes another opens; I decided I could not move on if the

Andrew Marshall, agony uncle and old door was left ajar by litigation.

The president of the British Men's So I asked a lawver friend to neco-So I asked a lawyer friend to negotiate on my behalf. He significantly improved the offer and I was able to leave with my dignity intact. The crisis made me reassess my working life and I have changed direction into something far more personally rewarding. Good luck at turning your problem into an opportunity.

Compiled by Carmen Fielding

If you have a work problem and want expert advice, write to Carmen Fielding, Fast Track, Features, The Independent, Canada Square, Canary Whar, London E145DL; fax 0171-293 2451; e-mail fielding@independent.co.uk



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Danger: you've got a job

Violence in the workplace is on the increase, and one of the highest risk areas

is the retail industry - especially for graduates. By Kate Hilpern

ost of us are ou fait with the dangers of violence on the streets and even in the home. If there aren't dark alleys and dodgy cab drivers to worry about, there are aggressive partners. What we are rarely warned about, however, is the increasing risk of brutality in the workplace. After all, employers will always take steps to protect you, won't they? If not, surely a colleague would shield you?

Don't be so sure. According to the Health and Safety Executive, there has been a significant increase in the number of violent attacks by colleagues and clients in the workplace, and not just in the most obviously dangerous jobs. Schools and libraries, for instance, are higher risk environments than ever before. And according to the Suzy Lamsigh Trust - named after the young state agent who disappeared without a trace in the course of her work - more and more market researchers and social workers have to cope with being threatened with

Meanwhile, staff from housing departments have the odd kitchen sink or toilet hurled at them. One was even held hostage by two 65year-olds. And while the British Crime Survey does not have a specific category for workplace violence, it does note "acquaintance violence" which accounts for about half of all attacks on men and one third of all attacks on women. A staggering 23 per cent of these incidents involve a customer or client, and around 20 per cent occur at work.

dogs or being punched and spat at.

Retailing has become a particularly prominent danger area in the ate Nineties. The British Retail Conartium's crime survey reported that this year, violent incidents against retail staff had increased by 44 per cent to 13,000. Nathan Flatman remembers his experience as a new graduate last year "I was employed as a supervisor of the toy department in a major store and at Christmas, it was not unusual for customers to get very irate when we didn't stock the things they wanted. Because we were their last line of attack, they could get very aggressive and they sometimes even resorted to pushing us around."

now works for the Suzy Lamplugh Trust - just as retailing is high risk in terms of a working environment, eraduates are high risk in terms of Froming victims. "Generally, graduates are still a bit under-confident in the workplace and have not learnt that sometimes it is better to refuse to get into certain situations than just trying to please the boss."

In addition, maintains the Trust, graduates are used to working individually at university. The resuit? They are less likely to attempt to decrease the risk of violence by asking to work as part of a team. "Graduates working in financial services, marketing or sales, for instance, are likely to visit clients in their homes alone, even if they feel vulnerable."

The fact that in the Nineties the customer is king is also relevant, says Cary Cooper, Professor of Or-



Science and Technology. "In an insecure working climate, fresh graduates become afraid to stand up for

emselves up to be abused." To top it all, claims Cooper, emloyers are not doing enough about it. Flatman agrees. There are five main pieces of legislation relevant to violence at work, he says, rang-ing from the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995. "Yet like many graduate drives, the personal safety training for my new job lasted just half an hour."

So what needs to be learned? Sarah Simpson, training director of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, explains: "At the most basic level, it's essential for employees to leave information with a colleagues about where they are and keep in touch if plans are changed. I know it's common sense, but it's truly amazing how many people simply don't do it." In addition, there are specific

versity of Manchester Institute of person's anger. "The way you sit, stand and relate to them, as well as what you wear can have an effect. Hands on the hips, for instance, can their rights. They are so aware of the be seen as confrontational - as can Patient's Charter and consumer too much eye contact or moving Indeed, claims Flatman: - who: rights that some of them actually set uloser to the person even if it's to put an arm round them." Employees especially graduates - also need to be aware that their predecessors may have caused the perpetrator to be agitated. A customer could, for example, have been promised something that they never received.

Getting to know the psychology of the angry customer/colleague is vital, according to all training organisations. But the skill of persuading a person to tell you exactly what their problem is, whilst identifying and sympathising with them, comes more naturally to some than others. It It is usually women, in fact. "Women are better at talking their way out of precarious situations," says personal safety trainer, Alice Lewis. "This might explain why statistics show that men are currently twice as likely as women to be subject to violent attacks in the workplace. When you consider that

ganisational Psychology at the Uni- techniques for dealing with another men are far less likely than women too. The word 'trauma' comes from probably even higher." But, she adds, even near misses need to be recorded. "It's one way of ensuring that the employer will provide more extensive training."

The fact is, however, that even the most sophisticated policies and procedures for safety cannot guarantee that a violent incident will never occur. This is why aftercare - such as critical debriefing or trauma counselling - is as important as training, emphasises counsellor Thelma Williams. "Depression, fear, headaches and flashbacks are typical responses to traumatic experiences. Very often, these responses resolve themselves in a few days, but when sufferers fail to acknowledge their emotions about the event, they can be heightened or prolonged. They may even lead to posttraumatic stress disorder."

In fact, it is not unusual for such events to trigger off other issues. Williams remembers one woman whose experience of violence at work jolted her memory back to when she was raped some years earlier. "This can happen to witnesses,

to report attacks, the real figure is the Greek meaning 'to wound'. It doesn't have to mean a wound to the body but to the psyche."

So do most organisations offer aftercare? Unfortunately, they do not. "Counselling still gets a bad press in this country," explains Professor Cary Cooper. "People are quick to say, 'If it's so essential, how come we coped without it 30 years ago?' But 30 years ago, we had extended families and close-knit communities who acted as natural counsellors. Today, society is too polarised for that." Sarah Simpson claims that one day she would like to run a programme focusing on workplace bullying.

"We all read articles like this about violence and harassment and identify with the victims. But we're all capable of becoming irrational, angry and aggressive ourselves. Just look at the way most people treat traffic wardens. For a happy working environment, employees need to beware of finding themselves on either side of the equation."

The Suzy Lamplugh Trust, 0181-876 0305, or www.suzylamplugh.org

DAVID ROBINSON, MD, RICHER SOUNDS

A career made Richer by redundancy

David Robinson, 32, is MD and deputy chairman of hi-fi special-ist Richer Sounds. He took a job in the company's second store as a 16-year-old to bide his time before becoming a draughtsman. But after forging a partnership with a maverick businessman, Julian Richer, that plan had to go back to the drawing board.

I LEFT school at 16 and was training to be a draughtsman in my hometown of Stockport

I was on an HNC course, which was the equivalent to a degree but in technical engineering. It was a bit like an apprenticeship. But the company I was working for went into receivership and I saw a joh advertised in Stockport as a salesman in this interesting-looking new hi-fi shop.

It was only the second of the

Richer Sounds stores, after Julian had opened the first one in London's Elephant and Castle. I only took it thinking I would work there for a year or so. But I did have some interest in sales, I had always been interested in music and here I am 12 years later, still waiting to finish my draughtsman course.

I met Julian when he was 24 -I was around 16 or 17 - and from day one, his enthusiasm and drive for the husiness was incredible and you really get swept along by that He seemed to see something in me that he could mould and we got along very well.

I enjoyed being on the frontline with customers and I did enjoy selling. It was a skill I did not think I had as much as I actually did. The buzz of being with customers was certainly better than looking at a drawing board all day.

Julian made me assistant manager within the first two or three months. And after about 18 months, the manager went off to open a store in Birmingham, so I

became the manager at 18. I had always been a leader at school but it was great to be able to find new things out about myself and learn how to run a team. I was other stores. So, by the time we were opening our fifth store. I was travelling around the country and living out of a suitcase.

I was involved in locating the sites and getting the stores off the ground. We had a period of rapid expansion which was exciting, but as Julian says in his book, we probably did a bit too quickly. By 19 or 20, I had moved into a more general role and became operational manager I was in charge of looking after the day-to-day running of the stores across the whole of the company. I did that for around four years and very fortunately, when I was 25. Julian made me MD.

I was in the thick of things and really enjoying myself at that time. It's one of Julian's strengths that



David joined Richer Sounds 12 years ago, and is now MD

he's very good at giving people autonomy and I revelled in that. If Julian is the maverick entrepreneur, then I'm the professional manager dealing with the detail and the follow-throughs.

We were both very young when the company was expanding, but it was never a problem dealing with older business people. By that time, we had several stores open and people started to treat us with respect and not look at us so much as if we were this crazy new company. We were always very quick and very pro-active in what we wanted to do and that gives you a certain amount of credibility, too.

Now that I am MD, everything has changed, but I'm still involved in store openings. And I always remind myself that as you grow and develop you have got to keep contact with people and I still have communications with the staff

working at the coalface every day. I've been very fortunate in that since the age of around 19 Tye been a leading figure in the company. But at Richer Sounds, age and professional qualifications are only as important as enthusiasm and getting

involved in the company's culture. We are very quick to promote people who have skills in a certain field, and that's not always selling. very fortunate because, as we I believe that if we are committed started to expand, Julian was keen to our own people, then that spills to let me go off and help him open over into how they treat the customers. That's why I'm constantly involved in reviewing the benefits and the perks in the company.

One of the things to give me most satisfaction is developing our holiday homes around the UK and Europe. They are brilliant any of our staff can book a week and stay at them for free and we have two beach houses and an amazing flat in Paris to that.

Really, it's all about fun because if you enjoy your job, you do it better. It's about our staff and being involved in a culture. And again, it's that autonomy and recognition of things that you do which has kept me toterested and stopped me going back to sit in front of that

drawing board. INTERVIEW BY MARK OLIVER

Up to their eyes in debt

Graduates are struggling to clear their student overdrafts. By Kate Hilpern

ACCORDING TO a recent survey by Barclays Bank, 86 per cent of students think they will be in debt at the end of their course. Pretty high, you might think, but many would be surprised it is not higher.

After all, the average student graduating this year can expect to owe almost £4,000. That is around five times the figure from 10 years ago. In the last year alone, there has been a 30 per cent rise in the amount owed to the student loanscheme, and over the last fit years, money borrowed from the scheme has risen from under £100m to £700m. So do these enormous sums mean graduates are five times as worried about debt as they were a decade ago?

Apparently not. Graduates are less troubled about their debts and less efficient at repaying them than ever. Barclays survey claims: "As awareness of debt is increasing, students are becoming more resigned about their lack of money. The number of students who are worried, angry or concerned about their debts has fallen by 9 per cent over the last year to 30 per cent and 21 per cent since 1992." Professor Stephen Lea, economic psychologist at the University of Exeter, agrees: "Today's stu-

hostility towards debt as the rest of the population. Even their hierarchy of repayment surprises some people. At the bottom of the list are student loans - which often form the biggest debt - yet they are usually not considered as debt at all but merely as credit. Then there are bank overdrafts which start off creating re-

dents don't share the same

impact of earning a real wage means it's quite normal to want to keep it to themselves. Before they know it, they've got used to a monthly income, and we all know how much harder it is to adjust to a lower standard of living than staying on a low one in the first place."

Research shows that the amount of money borrowed by students is closely related to sentment in the first year but, salary expectations. "Female

'Today's students don't share the same hostility towards debt as the rest of the population'

just get used to them, considering them as the norm. Then at the top of the list are friends and family who are almost aiways prioritised in terms of worry and repayment."

Naomi Atkinson, a financial adviser, is not surprised. "If graduates know they can get rid of their debt within a very short period of time, they might consider getting it out of the way. But if a single repayment is nothing but a drop in the ocean, they think, why should I bother? Second, the

as the terms pass, students students tend to manage their money more cautiously than men, with smaller debts," says Dr Alan Lewis, economic psychologist at the University of Bath. "Men. on the other hand. often blow large amounts in the pub and are much less likely than women to do proper ac-

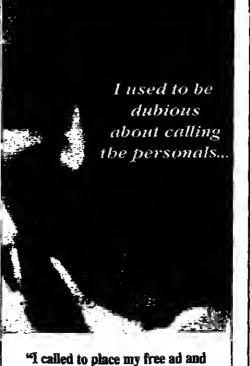
counting while at university." Julian Goode, 27, graduated in 1995 with more than £7,500 of debt. "I was living in cloud cuckoo land about my salary expectations. Now my credit card bills are really starting to get to me. At least I can put off of overdraft merchants."

the student loan because my salary is low enough that I can keep deferring repayment." This will not be the case for long, however, for the threshold is getting lower. Currently, graduates can defer repayment if they earn under 85 per cent of national average earnings, but soon, students earning more than £10,000 a year will have to start repaying. When the debt collectors

ught up with Suzy Asquith, 27, she left her career. "I had a good job in the media but it didn't pay well. It would have done once I'd worked my way up but I left and went into sales where the money was good enough to start paying back what I owed. But that was a year ago and I'm still having difficulty even getting back into media. I wish I had started paying my debts back earlier. Then I wouldn't be in this awful position."

Prof Lea claims increasing numbers of young people are being encouraged to consider debt as just another aspect of everyday life. "Even by offering students a clear financial package with a realistic repayment system, we could imiprove this situation," he says. "We need a system which will keep them out of the clutches

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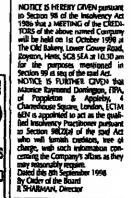
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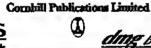




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For an information pack please contact: Personnel and Development, General Medical Council, 178 Great Portland Street, London WIN 6JE. Telephone (0171) 915 3497 between 0900 and 1700 hours, or fax us on (0171) 915 3578. Please indicate which post you are

The closing date for the receipt of completed applications is: Tuesday 6 October 1998.

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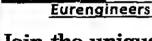
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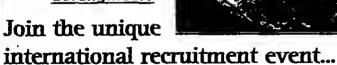
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NEW FILMS

BABYMOTHER (15) Director: Julian Henriques

An endearing reggae musical which takes an paint Anita (Anjela Lauren Smith) is a "babyyoung age. She lives in north London and longs to be a reggae star, but her dreams are confounded not only by her responsibility to her son and daughter, but by their calculating father, who feels that his own imminent stardom would be jeopardised by Anita's success. The final musical showdown between the pair is clumsy, but for the most part, this is a fresh and engaging delight. West End: Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Trocadero

COUSIN BETTE (15)

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Starring: Jessica Lange, Elisabeth Shue, Bob Hoskins Balzac's novel about romance and deception in 19th-century France is the basis for this shallow but breezy comedy. Jessica Lange plays Bette, who is appointed housekeeper to the family of her late cousin. In the pursuit of love in her own life, she inadvertently weaves a web of betrayal around everyone she knows - her cousin's daughter, Hortense (Kelly McDonald), her actress friend Jenny Cadine (Elisabeth Shue), and most of all Wencesias (Aden Young), a sculptor to whom Bette has deigned to play benefactor. Although the mirector Des McAnuff can't keep his film from wandering, there are enough precious comic moments to make it a pleasing diversion. West End: ABC Baker Street, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Haymarket, Odeon Kensington,

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15) Director: Steven Spielberg

Odeon Swiss Cottage

Starring: Tom Hanks, Edward Burns, Matt Darnon Steven Spielberg's Second World War drama focuses on a mission with more than a hint of

public relations about it. Three brothers are killed Starring: Anjela Lauren Smith, Wil Johnson, triple-dose of had news in one go; the fourth and youngest, James Ryan, is still in combat. Captain old idea and douses it in gaudy colours - quite squad to seek out the young Private behind enemy John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his literally, in fact, given that it sometimes looks as lines and return him home to safety. It is unlikely though the print has been spattered with Day-Glo that many viewers will emerge from the picture warmed by emotional catharsis, though there is mother" - a woman saddled with children at a plenty of it in evidence. It is the barsh, devastating battle sequences which are branded on the memory, and which momentarily suggest that the film will be something more adventurous and resonant than your average war movie. It isn't. But the promise alone is, in itself, strangely compelling.

The real achievement of Saving Private Ruan is that Spielberg has managed to create anything remotely worthwhile out of Robert Rodat's screenplay. Rodat throws together so many clichés that at times it seems that most of Spielberg's energy is expended in distracting us from the tawdriness of the material. This he does most effectively in the combat scenes, where subjective sound and photography create a disturbing sense of chaos. It was an error to once again use John Williams as composer, but for most of these lapses of judgement there are compensations, most often found in the cast. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Clopham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

LA VIE DE JESUS (THE LIFE OF JESUS) (NC) Director: Bruno Dumont

Starring: David Douche, Marjorie Cottreel, Geneviève Cottreel, Kader Cheatouf See The Independent Recommends, right

Ryan Gilbey

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Film Ryan Gilbey

THE UNBLINKING, blank-eyed coolness of Bruno Dumont's La Vie de Jésus is mirrored in the inscrutable face of the film's main character Freddy (David Douche) lives in a dull French town. His passions are his motorbike and his girlfriend, Marie (Mariorie Cottreel). He is a small fish in a small pond. Dumont's

first feature comes on like Los Olivados on downers; his characters are earthy and even ugly, but there is a plain sanctity in his depiction of them which approaches the essence of compassionate film-making.

As someone who has resisted The X-Files on television, I found the movie version (above) moderately enthralling. What I warmed to was the nicely understated, often dryly funny relationship between David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson. There should have been more. As anyone who has caught his cameos on The Larry Sanders Show will testify, Duchovny can be a real goofball. On general release

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

BUILDING ON the reputation for provocative writing he established with Shopping and Fucking, Mark Ravenhill delivers the goods again in the nious Handbag. Juxtaposing a Wildean prequel to The Importance of Being Earnest with brutal scenes showing the various parental crises of very Nineties couples, it provides a survey of biological complications without daring to suggest solutions.

Luric Studio, Hammersmith, London W6 (0181-741 8701) 8pm Personals (right) is a musical revue devised by the creators of Friends - David Crane and Marta Kauffman, together with Seth Friedman - and that concentration of talent shines through in spry songs and sketches about the pleasures and pitfalls of dating in the mean metropolis. New End, London NW3 (0171-794 0022) 7.30pm

Pop Tim Perry

NEW ZEALAND songwriter Neil Finn (right), the force behind Crowded House, goes out on the road under his own name for the first time in what is one of the most anticipated tours of the autumn. Always good value live, he'll be playing songs from throughout his career as well as the great poppy rockers that appear on his current album, Try Whistling This. Be sure to get there early to catch Arnold, the perfect complementary support act. Apollo, Oxford (01865 244544) 7.30pm Flushed with the success of "Morning

Afterglow", which has spent a few weeks in the singles chart, West Country quintet Electrasy are approaching the midway point of their extensive British tour. Playing songs from their very worthy Beautiful Insane album, they're more exciting, varied and charismatic than the other, more-hyped Britrock bands. University, Bradford (01274 233266) 8pm

Art Richard Ingleby

OVER THE LAST few years, Tom Hammick has made a name for himself as a painter of endless horizons and big, empty landscapes that hover on the edge of abstraction. His new exhibition marks a change in scale and subject, with his attention now fixed on the minutine of the world around him. His method, though, is just the same and shows that he's still a subtle painter with a gentle, sophisticated touch

Eagle Gallery, 159 Farringdon Road, London EC1 (0171-833 2674) to 10 Oct

Hammick's work can also be seen this month at the Redfern Gallery in Cork Street (which is, incidentally, celebrating 75 years in the business - happy birthday to them) where they have a selection of his work as a print-maker (right), including Lido, a new set of 21 etchings made to accompany poems by Maureen Duffy. Redfern Gallery, 20 Cork Street, London W1 (0171-734 1732) to 15 Oct



GENERAL RELEASE

This deeply stupid film purports to be a tender love story, a meaty action adventure and a global disaster movie in which a meteor is on a collision course with Earth. Its jumble of styles will end up pleasing no one. West End: Odeon Camden Town. *Ddeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Suriss Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

THE AVENGERS (12)

Ralph Fiennes dons the bowler hat and wields the cane as Steed, Uma Thurman pours herself into 8 catsuit as Emma Peel, while Sean Connery sashays around in a kilt as August De Winter, who plans to take over the world by controlling the weather. West End: Warner Village West End

LE BOSSU (15)

Sumptuous swashbucklers are fast becoming French cinema's stock-in-trade This effort shot with such magnificent braggadocio that its lack of originality is never a problem. West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Curzon Mayfair

THE DAYTRIPPERS (15)

Worried that her publisher husband may be having an affair, Eliza (Hope Davis) confides in her parents, only to find that the whole family insists on accompanying her to Manhattan for the day to confront him. First-time writer-director Mottola charts the tensions of the family car journey with unerring wit and unexpected compassion. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Swiss Centre

DR DOLITTLE (PG)

The thought of Eddie Murphy functioning within the restrictions of a PG certificate may not be a promising one, but Dr Dolittle proves that his talents are surprisingly pliable.

West End: Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelseo, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

EVE'S BAYOU (15)

Rites-of-passage drama set in Louisiana locations which have been devalued by too many Southern mfort ads. With Samuel L Jackson, Lynn Whitfield and Debbi Morgan. West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin Trocadero

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Director-star Kitano picked up the Golden Lion at last year's Venice Film Festival with this violent yet elegiac portrait of a brutal Japanese policeman pushed over the edge by his traumatic personal life. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Av

HANDS (AKA PALMS) (PG)

The director of this harrowing semi-documentary has been compared to Pasolini and Tarkovsky, but though this is an imaginatively realised rumination on the workings of the modern world, the picture is deadening in a way that those directors' best work never was. West End: Renoir

HE GOT GAME (18)

The plot of Spike Lee's muddled tale is pure pappycock: Jake Shuttleworth (Denzel ington) is doing time for the murder of his wife, but is offered a deal which could cut short his sentence if he can persuade his baskethall-star son to sign up with the Governer's alma mater. Lee coaxes an impressive performance from Washington, but it is his own stylistic excesses which are the film's undoing. West End: Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocodето

THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG)

Robert Redford's film of Nicholas Evans's novel is a textbook lesson in the narcissistic allure of cinema. Redford plays a Montana farmer who specialises in equine psychology. He agrees to help magazine editor Kristin Scott Thomas whose daughter has been traumatised in a riding accident. West End: Chelsea Cinena, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Phoenix Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road

THE LAND GIRLS (12)

Rachel Weisz, Anna Friel and Catherine McCormack are the "land girls" called upon in the Second World War to pick up the discarded ploughs and take the place of the farmers who have departed for war. Nothing surprising here sexual awakening, broad laughs, a smattering of tragedy - but very nicely done. West End; Screen On The Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

THE LAST DAYS OF DISCO (15)

In the fictional club at the centre of Whit Stillman's dry and slightly sad comedy, everything sparkles - under the light from the glitterball, the dancers are united in their absent-minded beauty, Stillman does a fine job of capturing the mixture of flair, invigoration and uncertainty by which any burgeoning trend is characterised and it's refreshing to find a work that is this enchanting and intelligent. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden. doesn't break much new ground, but is acted and Town, Odeon Kensington, Richmond Filmhouse, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

LIVE FLESH (18)

Pedro Almodovar's most accomplished film to date is crammed with sexual symbolism so potent it leaves you reeling. West End: ABC Panton Street

LOCK, STOCK & TWO SMOKING BARRELS (18)

This picture is peopled by thugs, both amateur and professional. Young Eddy, who comes unstuck in a high stakes card-game, falls into the former: but Hatchet Harry, to whom he owes £500,000, a dangerous old-school pro. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsen, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

LOST IN SPACE (PG)

Yet another cult 1960s TV series to get an expensive makeover, but the film-makers have remained faithful to the original tone and the movie looks terrific. West End: Odeon West

THE REAL HOWARD SPITZ (PG)

The Real Howard Spitz, a sunny comedy about a children's writer (Kelsey Grammer, aka Frasier) who hates children, is director Vadim Jean's most likeable work. Originality may be thin on the ground, but the direction is breezy and Grammer has a lovely, grouchy demeanour. West End: UCI Whiteleys

THE SPANISH PRISONER (PG)

David Mamet's intricate thriller is a playful exercise in twisting a plot until it locks; there is a scientific detachment about the way he explores every permutation but the movie is also slyly funny. West End: Barbican Screen, Gate Notting Hill Odeon Swiss Cottage, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

Ludicrous science-fiction borror about a strand of alien DNA carried back to earth in the bodies of astronauts. West End: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero

THE WEDDING SINGER (12)

A shamelessly dumb but very winning comedy starring Adam Sandler as the eponymous crooner and Drew Barrymore as the waitress he falls for, West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Warner Village

THE X-FILES (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

CINEMA WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET (0171-935 9772) ← Baker Street Cousin Bette 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Daytrippers 1.40pm, 3.50pm, 5.50pm Lethal Weapon 4 8.10pm

ABC PANTON STREET ABC PANTON STREET
(0171-930 0631) © Piccadily
Circus The Big Lebowski 1.15pm,
3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Jackle
Brown 1.30pm, 4.40pm, 7.45pm
Live Flesh 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm,
8.40pm The Proposition 1.10pm,
3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) & Piccadilly Circus Lolita 2.05pm, 5.05pm, 8pm Love And Death On Long Island 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0171-439 4470) ♦ Letcester Square Le Bossu 1pm, 3.30pm, 6om, 8.30nm Dance Of The Wind 5.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm The Daytrippers 1.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm Deconstructing Harry 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT

(0171-636 6148) & Tottenham Court Road The Last Days Of Disco 1.25pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm Saving Private Ryan 1.05pm, 4.40pm, 8.20pm

(0171-382 7000) • Moorgate/Barbican The Enigma 8.30pm Savis Private Ryan 7.30pm The Spanis Prisoner 6.15pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square The Horse Whisperer

1.05pm, 4.25pm, 7.50pm CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 2242) & Clapham Common The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.30pm The Last Days Of Disco 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private

6.30pm, 9pm Saving Priva Ryan 1.30pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm CURZON MAYFAIR

(0171-369 1720) ↔ Green Park Le Bossu 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

CORONET (0171-703 4968) & Elep Castle Lethal Weapon 4 6.15pm, 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm Saving Private Ryan 4.05cm 7.400cm 8.35pm Saving 4.05pm, 7.40pm Species II 4.15pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SOLIARE (0171-437 1234) & Leicester Square British Short Film Festival phone 0990 888955 for details The Godfather Part II a.15pm Godzilla 2pm, 5.10pm Saving Private Ryan 12pm, 4pm, 8pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate The Spanish Prisoner 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-9070718) + Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith The Horse Whisperer 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.15pm Lethal Weapon 4 9pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Saving Private Byan 12.20pm, 4.20pm Private Ryan 12.20pm, 4.20pm, 8pm The X-Files 12.15pm, 3pm, 6pm

ICA CINEMA (0171-930 3647) & Charing Cross The Connection 6.30pm The Trip 8.45pm La Vie De JÇsus 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

METRO (0171-437 0757) & Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square Latin American Film Festival Phone for details

CURZON MINEMA *(*0171-3*6*9 1723) Knightsbridge Psycho 3pm, 5pm, (0171-727 6705) ♦ Notting Hill Gate Saving Private Ryan 1,15pm, 4,35pm, 8pm

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN (0181-315 4229) ⊕ Camden (0181-315 4229) & Camden Town Cousin Bette 12pm, 2.50pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm The Last Days Of Disco 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Lethal Weapon 4 8.45pm Lock, 5tock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm The X-Files 12.15pm, 3om, 5.55pm 3pm. 5.55pm

ODEON HAYMARKET (0181-315 4212) O Piccadilly Circus Cousin Bette 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm

ODEON KENSINGTON (0181-315 4214) & High Street Kensington Cousin Bette 1,40pm, Kensington Cousin Bette 1,40pm, 4,20pm, 7pm, 9,40pm The Horse Whisperer 1,15pm, 4,55pm, 8,35pm The Last Days Of Disco 1,20pm, 4,05pm, 6,50pm, 9,35pm Lethal Weapon 4 9,35pm Lock, 5tock & Two Smoking Barrels 1,45pm, 4,25pm, 7,05pm, 9,45pm Saving Private Ryan 1,25pm, 5,05pm, 8,45pm, 5,05pm, 8,45pm 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm

ODEON LEICESTER SOUARE (0181-315 4215) & Leicester Square The Horse Whisperer 12.50pm, 4.15pm, 7.50pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (0181-315 4216) Marble Arch Armageddon 3.05pm, 8.50pm The Horse Whisperer 1.35pm, 1,35pm, 5.10pm, 8.45pm Lethal Weapon 4 9pm Lock, Stock & Timo Smoking Barrels 12.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Saving Private Ryan 1.15pm, 5.05pm, 8.40pm Species II 12.55pm, 6.30pm The X-Files 5.10pm, 8.45pm Lethal We 3.15pm, 6.05pm

ODEON MEZZANINE (0181-315 4215) & Leicester Square Eve's Bayou 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Object Of Mu Affection 4pm, 0.20pm, 8.45pm The Object Of My Affection 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Six Days, Seven Nights 1.55pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Thanic 12.05pm, 3.45pm, 7.25pm The Wedding Singer 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE

(0181-315 4220) & Swiss Cottage Armageddon 2pm, 5pm Cousin Bette 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Horse form, 8.30pm The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm, 4.05pm, 7.45pm Lethal Weapon 4 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.40pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

ODEON WEST END (0181-315 4221) Leices Square Lost In Space 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 12.45pm, 3.30pm,

PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) & East Finchley The Horse Whisperer 2.30pm, 8.10pm The Spanish Prisoner 5.50pm PLAZA

(0171-437 1234) ↔ Piccadilly Circus Armageddon 1.30pm, 4.45pm, 8pm The Castle 6.05pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.30pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Saving Private Ryan 3.15pm, 7.15pm Silding Doors 1pm, 3.25pm, 8.25pm

(0171-837 8402) & Russel Square Gadjo Dilo 2.10pm. 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Hands Palms) 3pm, 5.45pm. 8.25pm RIO CINEMA

RENOIR

(0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston fingsland The Last Days Of Disco 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm RITZY CINEMA

(0171-737 2121/733 2229) BR/

O Brixton Babymother 3,45pm.

5.35pm, 9.20pm He Got Game 4.05pm, 9.05pm The Last Days Of Disco 1,15pm, 3,50pm, 6,25pm, 9,05pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 7.05pm, 9.25pm The Pillow Book 1.30pm Saving Private Ryan 1.45pm, 5.10pm, 8.30pm The Spanish Prisoner

1.40pm, 6.50pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-486 0036) & Baker Street The Horse Whisperer 3.25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 6.40pm, 8.55pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.20pm

SCREEN ON THE GREEN 0171-226 3520)

Oh Angel/Highbury & Islington Saving Private Ryan 3.30pm, 7.40pm SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3366) & Belsize Park The Land Girls 3,30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm

(0171-792 3332) & Bayswater Armageddon 2.15pm, 5.35pm, 8.50pm Dr Dollttie 2pm, 4.10pm He Got Game 9pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5.05pm, 8.25pm The Land Girls 6.20pm The Last Days Of Disco 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.30pm, 9.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Saving Private Ryan 1pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm, 6.25pm, 8.35pm Species II 9.55pm The X-Files 1pm, 3.40pm UCI WHITELEYS

Files 1pm, 3.40pm VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-9070710) + Sloane

Control of Stoate Square/South Kensington Armageddon 5.20pm The Last Days Of Disco 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Lethal Weapon 4 9.10pm Lock, 5tock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 12pm, 4pm, 8pm VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-9070711) & South Kensington Armageddon Kensington Armag 12.40pm, 3.45pm The

Whisperer 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm The Land Girls 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Lethal Weapon 4 7pm, 9.30pm Saving Private Date 1.30pm S. Sover 8.40pm Ryan 1.30pm, 5.05pm, 8.40pm
The Spanish Prisoner 1.30pm,
3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm
The K-Fles 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm VIRGIN HAYMARKET

(0870-9070712) & Piccadilly Circus The Land Girls 1.05pm, 3.20pm, 5.45pm, 8.35pm The Last Days Of Disco Ipm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

(0870-9070716) — Piccadilly Circus Armageddon 12pm, 12pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm He Got Game 1.40pm, 5pm, 8pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.40pm, 9.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.15pm Species II 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm (0870-9070716) Piccadilly 5.50pm, 8.40pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4347) & Leicester Square Armageddon 2,10pm, 5.20pm, 8.40pm, 11.50pm The Avengers 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.20pm City Of Angels 1.15pm, 3.45pm Dr Dollittle 11.40am, 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.30pm The Land Girls 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm The Last Days Of Disco 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Lethal Weapon 4 6pm, 6.30pm, 12.10pm Lock, Stock 6 Two Smoking Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 11.30pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Thenic 8.35pm Zero Effect 12.30pm, 3.20pm WARNER VILLAGE WEST END 12.30pm, 3.20pm

CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) → Park Royal Armageddon 11am, 2.10pm. 5.30pm, 8.40pm Babymother 7.50pm, 10.0pm Dr Dollttie 12.20pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 9.20pm Godzilia 12.10pm, 3.20pm The Horse Whisperer 1pm, 4pm, 8,20pm Lethal Weapon 4 6,20pm, 8,40pm, 9,20pm Lock, Stock & Two 8.40pm, 9.20pm Lock, spock of two Smoking Barrels 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Lost in Space 11.40am, 2.20pm, 5.05pm Saving Private Ryan 12.50pm, 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 5.20pm, 8pm, 9pm Species II 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.40pm The X-Files 12.40pm, 3.40pm, 6,30pm, 9.10pm

BARKING
ODEON (0181-507 8444)

Barking Armageddon 8pm Dr
Dolittle 12,55pm, 2,40pm, 4,30pm,
6,10pm Godzilla 12noon, 2,35pm
Lethal Weapon 4 6,30pm, 8,45pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrels 1,05pm, 3,35pm, 6,05pm,
8,40pm Species II 12,10pm,
2,15pm, 4,25pm, 6,35pm, 8,50pm
The X-Files 12,25pm, 3,05pm,
5,45pm, 8,25pm

BARNET
ODEON (0181-315 4210) & High
Barnet Armageddon 12.05pm,
3.10pm Dr Dollttle 12.50pm,
2.35pm, 4.35pm, 6.35pm The
Horse Whisperer 12.55pm,
4.15pm, 7.40pm Lethal Weapon 4
6.05pm, 8.35pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 1.20pm, 3.50pm,
6.10pm, 8.40pm Saving Private
Ryari 12.20pm, 4pm, 7.30pm The
X-Files 8.30pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction Dr Dolittle 5.50pm The Horse Whisperer 2,20pm, 7.50pm Lethal Weapon 4 8.45pm 5aving Private Ryan 1,45pm, 8.15pm Species II 8.45pm The X-Files 20m, 5.450m

Creatures 8pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath Armageddon 11.45am, 2.50pm, 6pm, 9.10pm Cousin Bette 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Dr Dolittle 1pm, 3pm, 5pm The Horse Whisperer 11.30am, 2.45pm, 6pm, 2pm, 1.2 pm, 4.5pm, 6pm, Whisperer 11.30am, 2.45pm, 6pm, 9pm Lethal Weapon 4 6pm, 7.15pm, 8.45pm, 9.35pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12noon, 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm Lost in Space 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm Species II 9.30pm The Xelles 1.50pm, 4.30pm The X-Files 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.45pm

ODEON (0181-315 4211) 8R: Bromley South Dr Dollttle 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm The Horse Whisperer 12.15pm Lethal Weapon 4 6pm, 8.35pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 8.55pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 4.15pm, 7.50pm The X-

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford. Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Sav-ing Private Ryan 2.15pm, 7.40pm CROYDON

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) 8R: Croydon West/East The Horse Whisperer 1pm, 4.15pm, 7.30pm A Thousand Acres 2pm

FAIRFIELD HALLS (0181-688 9291) BR: East Croydon The X-Files 7.30pm

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon. Dil Se 8,10pm Lethai Weapon 4 8pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 6,15pm Saving Private Ryan 4,30pm, 7,50pm Species II 5,30pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680

8090) 8R: East Croydon Armageddon 2pm, 5.20pm, 8.35pm Dr Dollttle 11.40am, 1.40pm, 3.45pm The Horse Whisperer 1.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.50pm Lethal Weapon 4 6pm, 8.40pm, 9.40pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Lost in Space 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 7pm Saving Private Ryan 12.10pm, 1pm, 3.50pm, 4.40pm, 7.30pm, 8.20pm The X-Files 12.50pm, 3.35pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm 8.35pm Dr Dollttle 11.40am 6.30pm, 9.20pm

DAGENHAM

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) → Dagenham Heathway Armageddon 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolttle 2.40pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm The Horse Whispersr 4pm, 7.30pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm, 9.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Lost in Space 1pm, 3.45pm Saving Private Ryan 1pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 8.15pm Species 11 1.15pm, 3.20pm, 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm

VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/ Ealing Broadway The Horse Whisperer 1.10pm, 4.40pm Lethal Weapon 4 8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Saving Private Ryan 1.15pm,

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) • Edgware Chota Chetan phone for De Edgware Chota Chetan phone for times Dil To Pagal Hal phone for times Dulhe Raja phone for times Gharwall Bharwall phone for times He Got Game 5.20pm Lethal Wespon 4 6.05pm, 8.40pm Maharaja phone for times Pyaar To Hona Hi Tha phone for times Species 11 5.30pm, 8.30pm

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Hale Armageddon 2.10pm, 5.30pm, 8.50pm Babymother 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Cousin Bette 1.50pm, 4.35pm, 7.20pm, 10pm Dr Dolittle 12.45pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4.25pm, 5.15pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Eve's Bayou 3.30pm He Got Game 3.10pm, 6.45pm The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm, 4.10pm, 8pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.10pm, 9.30pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.10pm, 9.30pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.10pm, 9.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Saving Private Ryan 12noon, 1pm, 3.40pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm Species II 10.05pm The X-Files 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

FELTHAM

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Armageddon 11.30am, 2,40pm, 6pm, 9.15pm Cousin Bette 11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.35pm, 7.05pm, 9.25pm Dil Se 12noon, 2.45pm, 6pm, 9pm Dr Dolittle 11.45am, 1.45pm, 3.45pm, 5.45pm, 7.45pm Godzilla 12noon, 3pm The Horse Whisperer 11.30am, 2.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.35pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm, 10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12noon, 2,30pm. 4.50pm, 7.50pm, 9.50pm Lost In Space 12.45pm, 3.45pm Pyaar To Hona Hi Tha 1.10pm, 4.10pm, 9.10pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm Specks II 7.15pm, 9.45pm The X-Files 1.35pm,

4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 Central Armageddon 2.40pm 5.50pm, ppm Dr Dolltde 12.20pm, 2.45pm, 5.20pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5.05pm, 8.40pm Lethal Weapon 4 7.20pm, 9.50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Lost in Space 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm Saving Private Ryan 1pm, 1.35pm, 4.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.20pm, 8.50pm Species II 9.30pm The X-Files 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Dr Dollttle 2.40pm The Horse Whisperer 1.35pm The Last Days Of Disco 4.40pm, 7.05pm Lethal Weapon 4 9.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4.30pm. 7pm. 9.20pm 4.30 pm, 7 pm, 9.20 pm Saving Private Ryan 1.55 pm, 5.20 pm, 8.45 pm

HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) Beisize Park The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.35pm Lock, Stock & Two Swoking Barrels 2.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Saving Private Ryan 12.25pm, 3.55pm, 7.30pm

SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) → Harrow-on-the-HIII/Harrow & Wealdstone Di Se 1.30pm, 5pm. 8.45pm Setya 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) & Harrow on the Hill Armageddon 10,20am, 1.30pm 4.50pm, 8.10pm Dr Dollttle 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm The Horse Whisperer 10am, 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.50pm Lechal Weapon 4 6pm, 7.15pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm Lock, Sock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.10pm, 2.35pm, S.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Lost in Space 12.10pm, 2.50pm Saving Private Ryan 10.05am, 10.45am, 1.35pm, 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.45pm, 9.15pm Species B 12pm, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm The X-Files 10.10am. 6.30 pm The X-Files 10.10am, 12.50 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.30 pm, 9.20 pm

HOLLOWAY OPEON (0181-315 4213) @ Archway Armageddon 2pm, 5.05pm Dr Dolittle 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm He Got Game 1.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm The Horse Whisperer 1.05pm, 4.30pm,

7.55pm Lethal Weapon 4 8.55pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-reis 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm Saving Private Ryan 1pm, 4.25pm, 7.50pm Species II 2.35pm, 4.45pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm The X-Files 2.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

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GARING 4

1.000 Votes

ILFORD ODEON (0181-315 4223) & Gants Hill Dr Dolfttle I 1.50am, 1.50pm. 3.40pm Lethal Weapon 4 6pm, 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Midnight in The Garden Of Good And Evil 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm Saving Private Ryan 12.20pm, 4pm, 7.40pm The X-Files 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR Kingston The Horse Whisperer 2.10pm, 7.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.05pm. 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.25pm Saving Private Ryan 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (0181-315 4217(& Highgate Dr Dollttle 1.05pm, 2.55pm. 4.45pm The Horse Whisperer 12.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.50pm Lethal Weapon 4.6.25pm, 8.50pm Saving Private Ryan 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.40pm

PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Bahymother 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.15pm, 10.15pm Dr Dolittle 1.45pm, 8.55pm Godzilla 2.25pm He Got Same 3.20pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm Lethal Weapon 4 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Sarrels 2.10pm, 4.35pm, 7pm, 8.25pm Saving Private Ryan 1.55pm, 5.20pm, 8.45pm Species il 5.15pm, 7.25pm The X-Files 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.55pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-9020407) 8R: Purley The Horse Whisperer 7.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 5.40pm, 8.30pm Saving Private Ryan 7.10pm

PUTNEY ABC (0870 9020401) @ Putney Bridge BR: Putney The Horse Whisperer 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barreis 1,15pm, 3,45pm, 6,15pm, 8,45pm Saving Private Ryan 1,45pm, 5,15pm, 8,45pm

ODEON (0181-315 4218) R/OP Richmond The Horse Whisperer 1pm, 4.30pm, 8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Swifes Parkers 9,30pm Saving Private Ryan 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm

ODEON STUDIO (0181-315 4218) BR/O Richmond Armageddon 5.20pm. 8.30pm Cousin Bette Determine the superior of the 6,10pm, 9,10pm

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford. Lethal Weapon 4 8.15pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Saving Private Ryan 2.10pm, 7.30pm Species 8 2.05pm, 4.10pm, 6.15pm ODEON LIBERTY 2 (01708-

729040) BR: Romford Armageddon 1.45pm, 4.50pm, 8pm Barney's Great Adventure 1.10pm Dr Dolittle 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4,40pm, 6,40pm, 8.45pm Godzilla 12.05pm The Horse Whisperer 12,45pm, 4,10pm, 7,30pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.10pm, 8.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Lost In Space 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm; 4pm, 7.45pm.Species II 2.40pm The X-Files 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm. 5.50pm, 8.35pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: 5idcup The Saving Private Ryan 4pm, 7.30pm STAPLES CORNER

VIRGIN (0870-9070717) 8R: Cricklewood Dr Dollttle 2pm. 4.20pm The Horse Whisperer 2.30pm, 6pm Lethal Weapon 4 6.15pm, 9pm Lock, 5tock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5pm, 7.45pm, 8.30pm Species II 9.30pm The X-Files 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm

STREATHAM (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Cousin Bett 2.30pm, 6pm, 8.35pm Dr Dollttle 2.10pm, 4.05pm Lost in Space 6pm Saving Private Ryan 2.20pm, 7.45pm Species II 8.45pm

ODEON (0181-315 4219) BR: Streatham Hill/O Brixton/Clapham Common Armageddon 8pm Dr Dollttle 2.10pm. 4.10pm. 6pm He Got Geme 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm Lethal Weapon 4 5.40pm 8.10pm Lethal Weapon 4 5.40pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smok-ing Barrels 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Saving Private Ryan 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm The X-Files 12 20pm, 3pm STRATEORD

STRATFORD
NEW STRAIFORD PICTURE
HOUSE (0181-555 3366(BR/40
Stratford East He Got Game
2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm The
Horse Whisperer 1.15pm, 4.40pm
Lethal Weapon 4 8.50pm Lock,
Stock & Two Smoking Barrels
1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Savlng Private Ryan 1pm, 4.30pm,
7.55pm

SUTTON UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/O Morden Armageddon 2.45pm, 6pm, 9pm Dr Dolittle 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm Godzilla 3pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.30pm Lethel Weapon 4 6.30pm, 8.15pm Lock Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm. 4pm. 7pm. 9.30pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm. 4pm. 7.30pm. 8.45pm The X-Files 6.45pm, 9.45pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) O Turnpike Lane, Lethal Weapon 4 6.15pm, 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm Saving Private Ryan 4.05pm, 7.40pm Species II 4.15pm

SURREY QUAYS UCI (0990 888990) Surrey Chays Armageddon 3pm, 6.15pm, 9.30pm Dr Collttle 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm Godzilla 12.45pm, 4pm He Got Game 8pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.30pm Lethal Weapon 4 8pm The Little Mermaid 12.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.45pm, 3.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 7.15pm, 9pm, 10pm The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot 2,45pm Saving Private Ryan 1.20pm, 2pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm, 9.15pm Species II 5.15pm, 7.30pm, 9.45pm The X-Files 3,15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (01895-813139) Uxbridge Lethal Weapon 4 6.10pm. 8.45pm Saving Private Ryan 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm The X-Files 1.30pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424(Waitham-stow Central Lethal Weapon 4 8,10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 3pm, 5,30pm 8.10pm Saving Private Ryan 2.30pm, 7.05pm Species II 2.50pm, 5.30pm

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825 (BR: Walton on Thames The Horse Whisperer 8pm The Land Girls 3.30pm, 6pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Lethal Weapon 4 6.15pm. 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822(O Willesden Green Lethal Weapon 4 6.30pm, 9pm Species II 4.30pm, 6.30pm WIMBLEDON

ODEON (0181-315 4222(8R/O Wimbledon/O South Wimbledon Armageddon 8pm Dr Dollttie 1.40pm, 3.40pm, 5.40pm The Horse Whisperer 1pm 4.20pm, 7.45pm Lethal Weapon 4 5.50pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Saving Private Ryan 12.20pm, 3.55pm, 7.30pm The X-Files 2.50pm

NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) Tumpike Lane Jab Pyar Kissie Hota Hai 11am Pyaar To Hona Hi

WOODFORD

ABC (0181-989 3463) South
Woodford The Horse Whisperer
12.40pm, 4.05pm, 7.30pm Lock,
Stock & Two Smoking Barrels
1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Saving Private Ryan 12.45pm, 4.10pm, 7.30pm

CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm. 8.35pm Saving Private Ryan 4.05pm, 7.40pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146(su (15) 6.30pm, 9pm

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-633 0274/cc 928 3232(Lolita (18(2.30pm Fashion In Movement: Newsfilm Conference (NC) 6pm Sehind The Scenes Of James Bond: Cubby Broccoli: Event (NC) 6.30pm Images Of The Soviet Union At War 1941-1945: News film Conference (NC) 7.30pm Gumshoe (NC) 8.30pm Dr No

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA The ocadero, Piccadilly Circus W1 171-494 4153) Across The Sea Of Time - A New York Adventure (3-D) (U) 10,45am. 12,50pm, 2,55pm, 5,10pm, 7,15pm, 9,20pm 1.5 - City In Space (U) 11,55am, 2pm, 6,20pm, 8,25pm, 10,30pm Everest (U) 4.05pm

PRINCE CHARLES Lelcester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) Monk Dawson (18) 1pm Kundun (12) 6.30pm Scream 2 (18) 9.15pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS CINEMA Crisp Road W6 9 (0181-237 1111/cc 0171-420 0100) Wag The Dog (15) 6.45pm + The Ice Storm 8.40pm

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High **568 1**1761 The Land Girls (12) 1.30pm, 6.15pm The Horse Whisperer (PG) 3.30pm, 8.15pm

DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-626261) The Scarlet Tunic (12) 2pm Le Bossu (15) 4pm, 8.45pm A Self-Made Hero (15) 6.30pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Cousin Bette (15) 6pm, 8.25pm Dance Of The Wind (U) 6.05pm The

Last Days Of Disco (15) 8.35pm ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) The Horse Whisperer (PG) 1pm, 6.30pm Psycho (15) 4pm, 9.30pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) The Last Days Of Disco (15] 2.30pm, 7.30pm The General (15) 6.15pm Metroland

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544)
Eve's Bayou (15) 2.30pm Firelight
(15) 6.15pm, 8.30pm The Thing
(1982 Version) (18) 7.30pm

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Afterglow (15) 2.30pm. 5.45pm Hana-Bi (18) 8.15pm

OXFORD OATOND PHOENIX PICTURE HOUSE (01865-554909) Love And Death On Long Island (15) 1pm The Horse Whisperer (PG) 3pm, 8.30pm Cousin Bette (15) 4.15pm, 9.15pm GoodFellas (18(9pm

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114(Mojo (15) 8pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ODEON (01273-207977): Armageddon (12): Cousin Bette (15); Dr Dollttle (PG(; The Horse Whisperer (PG): Kundun (12): Lethal Weapon 4 (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Saving Private Ryan (15); The X-Files (15)

VIRGIN CINEMA (0541-555145): Armageddon (12): Barney's Great Adventure (U): Blank Cheque (PG); Dr Dollttle (PG); Godzilla (PG); The Horse Whisperer (PG); Lethal Weapon 4 (15); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Lost In Space (PG); The Magic Sword: Quest For Camelot (U): Savins Private Ryan (15); Species II (18) The X-Files (15)

NORWICH ABC CINEMA (0541-560567(Armageddon (12); Barney's Great nture (U); Cousin Bette (15); Dr Dolittle (PG); Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG(; Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Saving Private Ryan (15): Species II (18)

THEATRE

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; oay; times and prices for the execu-running times include intervals.
Seats at all prices I — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed. [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri. [7]: Sat

ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Felicity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Theatre Shaftesbury Av enue, W1 (0171-494 5065) ♦ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5)[7) 3pm, £19.50-£27.50. 165 mil

ANNA KARENINA Stage adaptation of Tolstoy's classic portrayal of passion from Shared Experience Theatre Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) → nammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm. ends 10 Oct. £5-£18. 180 mlns.

ART Stacy Keach, David Dukes, George Wendt in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndham's Theatre Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) & Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins,

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Dis-ney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Theatre Tor-tenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tort Ct Rd. Mon. Wed-Sat 7.30pm, Tue 6.30pm, (4)(7) 2.30pm,

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool mu-sical. Phoenix Theatre Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) & Le-ic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £10.50-£29.50, 165 mins.

O THE BLUE ROOM Nicole Kidman stars in David Hare's adap-tation of Schnitzler's La Ronde. Don-mar Warehouse Earlham Street. WC2 (0171-369 1732(→ Coven Garden, Mon-Sat 8pm, £12-£25.

● BUDDY Musical hiog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Theatre Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) ● Covent Gar-den/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [11] 4pm 55.75 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £6.75-£30, 160 mins.

• CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Theatre Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079(O Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3([7) 3pm, £12.50-£35. O CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars in this hit Broadway musical

Adelphi Theatre Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055(& Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £16-£36 (incl booking fee). 130 mins. CLOSER Superh study of contemporary sexual relationships from Deeler's Choice author Patrick Marber, Lyric Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045)

→ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7) 3pm, £7.50-£27.50, 140 mins. THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE Company fast-forward through 37 plays. Criterion Theatre Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, [7) 5pm, [1] 4pm, £9.50-£20. 120 mins.

D CRAVE New drama from Sarah Kane, looking at love, loss and desire. Royal Court Theatre Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [7] 4pm, £5-£10, benches 10p, Mon - all seats £5. 45 mins,

 DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. Labatt's Apollo Hammersmith Oueen Caroline street. W6 (0171-416 6022) Hammersmith, Tue-Sat 7,30pm [4([7(2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins.

• GREASE Marissa Dunlop stars in be stage version of the hit film. Cambridge Theatre Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-484 5080) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm,)4)[7] 3pm, £10-£30. 150 mins.

● THE HONEST WHORE Mid-dictor and Dekker's collaborative melodrama. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9819) ⊕ London Bridge. In rep, today 2pm, ends 18 Sept. E5-£20, concs avail-

AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo pher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (5] 3pm. [7] 4pm. booking to Oct 10. £7.50-£29.50.

● AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Theatre Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm. Sat 8.15pm. (4) 2.30pm, [7(5pm, £10,50-£25. 110 mins.

THE LADY BOYS OF BANGKOK Cabaret performance, featuring stunning female imper-sonators. Queen's Theatre Shafteshury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5590/cc 344 4444(& Picc Circ. Mon-lue & Thu 8pm. Wed, Fri & Sat 6pm & 8.45pm, ends 26 Sept, £10.50-£30, 110 mins.

A LETTER OF RESIGNATION Hugh Whitemore's play about the Profumo affair. Savoy Theatre Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) & Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £12.50-£25. 135 mins.

● LOOT Acciaimed revival of Joe Orton's comedy. Vaudeville Theatre Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/& Charing X. Mori-Sat 8pm.)4 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8-£25. 110 mins.

DA MAD WORLD MY MASTERS Middleton's comic look at London low-life in the 17th century. The Globe New Globe Walk, SEI (0171-401 9919) & London Bridge. In rep. tonight 7.30pm, ends 19 Sept, £5-£20, concs available. 180 mins.

 MAJOR BARBARA Jem Redgrave and Peter Bowles star. Pic-cadfilly Theatre Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5) 2.30pm. [7] 3pm. £8.50-£27.50. 180 mins.

) LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's mas-terpiece. Palace Theatre Shaftesbury enue. W1 (0171-434 0909) ⊕ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5((7(2.30pm, £7-£35, 195 mins.

MISS EVER'S BOYS David Felshuh's disturbing drama looks et the issues surrounding medical experimentation on unknowing black citizens earlier this century in America, Barbican: The Pit Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) & Barbican/Moorgate. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, ends 3 Oct, £12-£17.

 MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060(+ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4)[7) 3pm, £5.75-£35. 165 mins.

) THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnif. St Martin's Theatre West Street, WC2 (0171-

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Theatre Haymarker, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) & Ploc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm,)4)[7) 3pm, £10-

PHEDRE Diana Rigg stars in Po-et Laureate Ted Hughes' new trans-lation of Racine's tragedy. Albery Theatre St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-388 1730/cc 867 1111) Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 3pm, £5-£29.50. 100 mir • THE REAL INSPECTOR

HOUND & BLACK COMEDY Dou-ble bill of drama from Tom Stoppard and Peter Schaffer, directed by Gregory Duran. Comedy Theatre Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731)

Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £7.50-£27.50. RENT Musical inspired by La

Boheme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Theatre Shaftes-bury Avenue, WCZ (0171-379 5399) — Hofborn/Tott Ct. Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm. £12,50-£32.50. 160 mins. ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

O OLIMER: Oklahornal Classic mu-sical from Rodgers and Bammer-stein leaturing the song Oh What A Beautiful Mornin. Mon-Sat 7.15pm, mats Wed & Sat 2pm, ends 3 Oct. LYTTELTON: Cleo, Camping. Emmenuelle And Dick Terry Johnson's new play looks at the Carry On actors and recreates Sid

James, Kenneth Williams and Babs Windsor on stage. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, continuing. COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, 145 mins, Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£19, Day seats from 10am, South 8ank. 5£1 (0171-452 3000)

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia, London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) → Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7,30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50.

SHOW BOAT Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein's musical set on the Mississipi. Prince Edward Theatre Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) \(\theta\) Leic Sq/fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, booking to 19 Sept, £10-£35. 180 mins.

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE - THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock n'roll hit-makers celebrated in a musical revue that in-cludes "Jailhouse Rock". Prince Of Wales Theatre Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) → Lec Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Thu 8pm, Frl 5.45pm & 8.30pm, Sat 3pm & 8pm, £15-£32.50, Fri mats £10-£25, 135 mins.

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Wehber's hi-tech roller-musical Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) 8R/ & Victoria, Mon-Sat 7.45pm,)3[[7] 3pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins.

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayck-bourn's comedy. Duchess Theatre Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) O Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5([7] 3pm, £15-£27.50. 140 mins.

VIA DOLOROSA David Hare writes and performs this meditation on a trip to Israel and Palestine. Royal Court Theatre (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq/Char-ing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 3 Oct. £5-£25, 90 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about two children who mistake an escaped convict for Jesus. Aldwych Theatre
Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc
836 2428) Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5[)7) 3pm, £10-£32.50.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK SUsan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Theatre Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 8pm, (3) 3pm, [7) 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE The Play About The Baby Edward Albee's oew play which axplores the ps between four pe Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 10 Oct. £9.50-£19.50. concs available, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404(+ Angel.

YOUNG VIC Our Country's Good Study of the civilising power of lan-guage, written by Timherlake Wertenbaker and performed by Out Of Joint, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat SE1 (0171-928 6363(↔ /BR

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BATH THEATRE ROYAL Amadeus Peter Shaffer's engrossing play inspired by the music of Mozart. 17-18 Sept. 8pm. £10-£24.50. St Johns Place

(Ö1225-448844/cc 448861(USTINOV STUDIO AT THE THEATRE ROYAL Krapp's Last Tape Edward Petherbridge performs Samuel Beckett's melacholic piece. 17-19 Sept. 7.45pm, mat 17 Sept. 2.45pm, £7.50-£9.50. Sawclose (01225-448844/cc 448861)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call PAUL RHYS stars in the new play by Tom Stoppard (right), The Invention of Love, in which he plays the

young AE Houseman. It's a sympathetic portrayal of his life as a failing Oxford student and the college loveaffair which spawned his best known work, "A Shropshire Lad". His legacy is as one of this century's best-loved and greatest classical poets. Directed by Richard Eyre. Harmarket Theatre, Harmarket, London SW1 (0171-930 8800) opens 3 Nov

Last Call FORMED IN 1992 by 8 trio of schoolmates, Ash have since completed their A-levels at the cost of a support slot with US rock giants Pearl Jam. Now they are a quartet, with guitarist Charlotte Hatherley joining for their tour in support of a third album. They are warning fans to expect something rockier. "We threw all the rules out the window," says frontman Tim Wheeler.

Guildford Civic Hall, 12 Oct; Folloestone Leas Cliffe Hall, 13 Oct; Cambridge Corn Exchange, 15 Oct; Norwich UEA, 16 Oct; Llangollen International Pavilion, 23 Oct, Hereford Leisure Centre, 28 Oct; Leicester De Montfort Hall, 29 Oct; London Forum, 31 Oct and 1 Nov. Ash tour information: 0115 912126

BRISTOL **EXHIBITIONS** THEATRE ROYAL How The Other Half Loves Alan Ayekbourn's comedy of modero manners features social comment and ironic humour, Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thu-Sat

8pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 3 Oct. £3-£19. King Street CANTERBURY
MARLOWE THEATRE Kat And The BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART

ERISTOL WATERSHED This Man's Army:

Martin Figura Photographs explor-iog life io the army.

Four American Painters: Franken-

guide Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321) & Charing Cross,

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

Sun all day, ends 30 Sept, free. Chagall: Love And The Stege

Featuring colourful murals made m Russia. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (Fri to

TATE GALLERY Warhol And Beuys: Loans From The Froelich Collection Work by leading 20th-century artists.

paintings and a drawings inspired by popular culture. Ends 1 Nov.

Moonlight And Firelight: Water-colours From The Turner Bequest

Work exploring Turner's interest in moonlight and firelight. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 11 Nov, free. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000)

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM Picasso's Ladies: Wendy Ramshaw Precious-metal jewellery. Ends

Canon Photography Gallery High-lights from the photography collec-tion. Mon 12noon-5.45pm, Tue-Sun

10am-5.45pm, permanent. £5. concs £3. under 18/UB40/mems/dis-

abled/NUS/after 4.30pm free. Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART A

Conversation Piece: John Murphy - Juliao Sarmento Collaboration of

All Zones Off Peak: Tom Wood

Photographic representation of bus

rmongraphic representation of this journeys. Opens Aug 28, Tue-Sun 11am-6pm (Thu to 9pm), ends 4 Oct. £2.50 (free Wed mom & Thu eve), concs £1.50, child free, Depthset Chron (1955).

Pembroke Street (01865-722733)

SOUTHAMPTON CITY ART

GALLERY From Reynolds To

Micholson Major British art. Renalssance To Impressionism Eu-

ropas masterpieces. Up to 2000 Today's leading artists. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm (Thu to 7pm), Sun 1pm-4pm, ends 18 Oct, free.

ST IVES TATE GALLERY Colour in

SOUTHAMPTON

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8441) O South Kensington.

Critical Mass: Antony Gormle Sixty casts of human bodies. Mor

Leicester Square.

11pm, ends 4 Oct. free.

CAMBRIDGE

LONDON

Kings Musical about a band set in 1960s Cape Town. 17 Sept. 7.30pm. 18 Sept. 6pm & 9pm, 19 Sept. 5pm & 8pm. £10.50.£18.50. The Friars (01227-787787) SHERMAN THEATRE The Accidental Death Of An Anarchist Dario Fo's satire on police corruption is presented by Mirage Theatre. 17-19 Sept. 8pm. £7, concs

available, Senghenydd Road (01222-230451) CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Katherine Howard Richard Griffiths stars as Henry VIII in Nicholson's portrayal of the misogynist king. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat

2.30pm, ends 10 Oct. £6,50-£25. Oaklands Park (01243-781312) MINERVA STUDIO THEATRE The Glass Menagerie Tennessee Williams's tale of a faded Southern belle and her aspirations for her children stars Gemma Jones. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thu & 5at 2,45pm, ends 10 Oct. £10. Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

EYE THEATRE Pride And Prejudice Stage adaptation of Jane Auster's classic comedy of manners, Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 19 Sept. £5.95-£10.95. Broad 5treet (01379-870519)

GUILDFORD YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Equally Divided Stephanie Cole and Stephanie Beacham star in nald Harwood's new drama about sibling rivalry, Mon-Thu 7.45pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm. ends 26 Sept. £10-£21.50. Millibrook (01483-440000)

in art from Van Eyck to Helen Chadwick Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Wed HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN HALL Bouncers John Godber's acclaimed depiction of British nightlife, 17-19 Sept. 8pm. £9, concs £7. Victoria Street (01494-512000)

HORNCHURCH QUEEN'S THEATRE From A Jack To A King Bob Cariton's rock n'roll reworking of Macbeth features a range of familiar hits. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 3 Oct. £5.50-£12.50, cones ble. Billet Lane (01708-

8.30pm), ends 4 Oct, phone for prices. Picesso: Painter And Sculptor in Clay Exploring the ceramic works of the 20th-century ILFRACOMBE artist. Opens 17 Sept. Mon-Thu. Sat & Sun 10am-6pm. Fri 10am-8.30pm, THE LANDMARK One For The Road Comedy from the author of Educating Rita and Blood Brothers. ends 27 Dec. phone for prices. Burlington House, Piccadlly, W1 (0171-300 8000/cc 413 1717) 17-19 Sept, 8.15pm. £5-£9. The Promenade, Wilder Road O Green Park/PiccadIlly Circus. (01271-324242(

WOLSEY THEATRE Mother Ends 20 Sept.
Art Now 15: Fiona Banner New Courage And Her Children David Hare's new version of Breeht's classie. From 17 Sept, Tue-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 10 Oct. £11, concs available. Civic Drive (01473-253725)

MILEORD HAVEN TORCH THEATRE Maurice Adaptation of EM Forster's nove about a young man's attempt to come to terms with his sexuality Contains mudity. Tonight 7.30pm. £7.50, concs £4.50. St Peters Road (01646-695267(

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE How The Other Half Loves Alan Ayckbourn's comedy about a suburban trio of couples linked by the work of the husbands. Mon-Thu & Sat, 7.30pm. Fri, 8pm, mats Thu & Sat, 2.30pm, ends 26 Sept. £8-£19.50, cond available. Beaumont Street

DRUM THEATRE, THEATRE ROYAL Sell Out Frantic Assembly's 17-19 Sept. 7.45pm. £2-£8.50. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

READING THE MILL AT SONNING Don't Rock the Boat Comedy set on a converted barge. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 2.15pm, ends 17 Oct. £20.95-£31.95, Incl meal, Sonning Eve (0118-969 8000)

SALISBURY SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE AS YOU Like it Cathy Tyson stars in this pastoral classic from Shakespeare. In rep, 17, 18. Sept, 7.30pm, mat 17 Sept, 2pm, ends 3 Oct. £8-£15. Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

Space: Patrick Heron Show docu-menting Britain's leading artist's public artwork. Ends 18 Oct. public artwork. Ends 18 Oct. Displays 1997-8 Show focusing on the De Stijl group and the contem-poraries of Roger Hilton. Ends 1 Nov. After Adraga: John Beard Studies of a Portuguese cliff face. Ends 1 Nov. The Fragile Cell: John Welts Paint-ings by a lesser-known St Ives artist. Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-spm, ends 1 Nov. £3.50. concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226) PALACE THEATRE Dead Funny Caroline Quentin directs Terry Johnson's comedy about a woma coping with her hushand's obsession with dead comedians such as Tommy Cooper and Eric Morecombe. Mon-Thu 7. 45 pm. Fri-Sat 8pm, ends 26 Sept. £4-£15.75, concs £4-£9.50. Clarendon Road Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

CLASSICAL

ONDON HATH
HOTBATH GALLERY Faces Of
Thee And Ladakh: Elizabeth Sheehan Photographs depicting the reality of Himalayan life. Mon-Fri
9am-4.45pm. Sat 10am-4pm, ends
30 Sept, free. City of Bath College,
Awon Street (01225-312181) ROYAL ALBERT HALL Royal Phil-

WIGMORE HALL Christopher Maltman The baritone airs Schubert, Schumann and Wolf lieder. Tonight 7.30pm. £8-£15, Wigmore Street. WI (0171-935 2141) → Bond GALLERY Disasters Of War:
Callot, Goya, Dix Selections from
three artists' war etchings. Mon,
Tue, Thu-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm5pm, ends 4 Oct, free. Church
Street (01273-290900) Street/Oxford Circus.

WESSEX HALL, POOLE ARTS CENTRE Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra/Kreizberg Prokoflev's 1st Piano Concerto, played by Dmitri Alexeev, and Brockner's 7th Symphony. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£24. Kingland Road (01202-685222/cc 674234) Fortunes Of War. Eric Pascal Les-dema Photographs exploring the in-trinsic links between war, tourism and consumerism. Mon-Sun 9am-

OPERA FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM WITHIAM Blake: The Book Of Job Pages from Blake's book with other examaples LONDON of his illustration, Ends 25 Oct. LONDON COLISEUM Rusalka Dvorak's late opera revived to open a new ENO season conducted by Richard Hickox. Tonight 7pm. £5thaler Noland, Olitski, Poons Important figures in America's avant-garde. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 8 Nov. free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900) £55, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) ◆ Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

CARDIFF NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES DANCE Victorian Visions; From Rosetti To Whistler Victorian drawings and watercolours. Ends 27 Sept. watercolours. Ends 27 Sept. Princes As Patrons Over 250 works from the Royal Collection. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 8 Nov. £4.25, child & concs £2.50 (to museum) Cathays Park (01222-397951) SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEACOCK THEATRE Cool Heat, Urban Beat Hip hop, street tap, percussion and poetry. To light 8pm. ends 27 Sept. £7.50-£25. Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222)

NATIONAL GALLERY Venice Holborn/Temple. Through Canaletto's Eyes Twenty-three paintings and drawings by the Venetian artist. Ends 11 Oct, free. RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Legs On The Wall & Company B Belvoir: Under The Influence Australian physical theatre using dance and acrobatics Mirror Image: Jonathan Miller On Reflection Mirrors and reflections to delve into compulsions and rela-tionships. Tue-Sun 7.30pm, ends 26 Sept. £12, concs £9. Crisp Road, W6 Dec. £5,50, cones £3,50, incl audio (0181-237 1111) + Hammersmith.

LITERATURE

THREE JEWISH POETS Readings by Dr. Damile Abse, Lotic Kramer and Myra Schneider, Lauderdale House terlow Park N6 (0181-348 8716) O Archway. Tonight 8pm, £5,

RUPERT SMITH & SARAH WATERS Reading from their first novels, I Must Confess and Tipping The Vel-vet. Voice Box, Royal Festival Hall South Bank SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo, Tonight 7.30pm, £4,

HOGARTH: POLITE AND IMPOLITE ART An illustrated talk given by Jen-ny Uglow, whose biography of Hog-arth was published in 1997. The Rye Treasury Cinque Ports Street. Tonight 6pm, £6 (includes refresh-

COMEDY

LEE EVANS - DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME TOUR AT APOLLO THElywood film star. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 6pm & 9pm, ends 21 Nov. £8.50-£21.50. Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5580) ← Piccadilly

BENEFIT NIGHT FOR RICKY REEL CAMPAIGN AT UP THE CREEK Boothby Graffoe, Mandy Knight, Jeff Innocent, Martin Soan, Matthew Hardy and The Greatest Show On Legs. Tonight 8pm, £8, concs £5, Creek Road, SE10 (0181-858 4581)

DONGLEURS WATFORD Geoff Boyz, Dave Fulton, Dominic Holland, He-len Austin, plus one other TBC, Tonight 7.45pm, £6. The Parade (0845-6081818)

CLUBS

BRIGHTON THE SHAKE AT THE BEACH R&B. garage and classic grooves. Tonight 10pm-late, £4, concs £2.50. Kings Road Arches (01273-722272)

LONDON FSUK LAUNCH PARTY AT THE MINISTRY OF SOUND WIL Be Minds IRY OF SOUND With Bentley
Rhythm Ace, Freestylars and
Massimo plus female breakdance
crew Buffalo Gais. Tonight 9.30pm
3.30am, Gaunt Street, SE1
(0171-378 6528(& Elephant &
Castle, £7, concs £5.

SURGERY AT THE ISLINGTON BAR Breakfest from Marc (4-Bero), DJ Evolution (Megadog) and DJ Freefall. Tonight 8pm-2am, Cale-donian Road, N1 (0171-609 4917) O Caledonian Road, £3.

EVENTS

BRIGHTON FORENSIC - BAGS OF EVIDENCE The Scratch crew offer ao entertaining and innovative approach to visual art and modern culture. Hove Museum & Art Gallery New Church Road (01273-290200) Ends 4 Oct, phone for details.

LOST RIVERS Diverse exhibition of Native American poetry and illus-tration as part of the Inventing America seasoo. Berbican Library. Barbican Centre Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 0672) Tuhe: Barbican/Moorgate. Mon 9.30am-5.30pm, Tue-Fri 9.30am-7.30pm, Sat 12.30pm-5.30pm, ends 1 Oct.

PETER THE GREAT IN ENGLAND 1698: EXHIBITION Documents and artefacts about Tsar Peter's English adventures during a trip aiming to-take back to Russie English techoology, Oueen's House, National Maritime Museum Park Row SE10 (0181-858 4422) BR; Greenwich/Maze Hill, Mon-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 27 Sept, free with museum adm, £5, child £2.50. concs £4, family ticket £15.

<u>MUSIC</u>

BRIGHTON AFRICAN HEADCHARGE, ADRIAN SHERWOOD Oo-U Sound boss Sherwood mixes the dub onslaught. The Concorde Madeira Drive (01273-606460) Tonight 9pm. F5-£6.50.

FOI KESTONE EMBRACE Epic stuff from Danny McNamara and Co's critically acclaimed debut album, Good Will Out, Lees Cliff Hall The Leas (01303-253193) Tonight 8pm; £9.50.

SIMPLY RED Mick Hucknall's awardwinning pop soulsters play their only UK dates for 1998. Lyceum Theatre Wellington Street WC2 (0171-656 1802) 👄 Charin Cross/Embankment, Tonight £40. **PSUK LAUNCH PARTY - BUFFALO**:

FSUK LAUNCH PARTY - BUTTANGERLS, SUPER HUMAN ELECTRONICS Big Beats meet the Old Skool to promote a oew compilation of remixes from Bentley Rhythm Ace. Ministry of Sound Gaunt Street SE1 (0171-378 6528) + Elephant & Castle. Tonight 9.30pm, £7, concs £5. THE TIGER LILLIES Cult acoustic outfit with strangely-compelling melodies and nasty lyrics, currently much in demand for arty cinema

Street E1 (0171-392 9032) O Liverpool Street. Tonight 8pm, £9, ALAN TYLER BAND, FOGHORN LEGHORN, GREAT WESTERN SOUARES Tribute to the late, lamented country-rock renegade Gram Par-suns. The Weavers Arms Newington Green Road N1 (0171-226 6911) & Highbury & Islington, Tonight 8pm, £4.

soundtracks. The Spitz Commercial

OKFORD NEIL FINN Crowded House front man showcases his debut solo albura. Try Whistling This Apollo Theatre George Street (01865-244544) Tonight 8pm, £12.50-£15

PORTSMOUTH EDDI READER, LEE GRUFFITHS rground Attraction's crystal-to singer tours her new album, Arigeir & Electricity. Wedgewood Rooms Albert Road, Southsea (01705-863911) Tonight 8pm, £8.

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

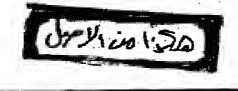
KELVIN CHRISTIANE/TESS GARRAWAY OUARTET Find contemporary and Latin jazz. The Watermill Reigate Road(01306-887831) Tonight 8.30pm, £7, ANITA WARDELL QUARTET

Assured vocalist with a genu talent. 606 Club Lots Road SW10 (0171-352 5953) + Fulham Broadway. Tonight 9.30pm, £4.95. CARMEN LUNDY Versatile US vocalist Jazz Cafe Parkway NWI -(0171-916 6060) + Camden Town...

lonight 8.30pm, £15, £12.50 adv. PETER KING QUINTET Leading international postbop altoist with trum-peter Gerard Presencer, Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060) De Camden Town, Tonight 7.30pm

£7.50, concs £4,50, STEVE ARGUELLES QUINTET IMpressionistic drummer showcasing new album, Circuit. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722(+ Tottenham Court Road, Tonight 9pm, £12,50,

SIBONGILE KHUMALO Expression operatic South African vocalist. Roll ile Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) → Leicester Square. Tonight 9pm & 11.30pm, £12. mems £4, NUS £8 (Mon-Thu(; £15. mems £8 (Fri-Sat).



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THURSDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Moyles, 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30 The Evening Session Priority Night. 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 12.00 Gilles Peterson. 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Clive Warren.

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Appendix

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RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruca. 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stew-art 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00 David Alian. 8.00 Paul Jones. 9.00 King of the Road 9.30 What on Earth?. 10.00 Deniece Williams. 10.30 Richard Allinson, 12.05 Steve Madden. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester.

RADIO 3 (902-924MHz FM) 8.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. **11.00** Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Mendelssohn.

1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Ensemble. See Pick of the Day. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 In Tune.

7.30 Performance on 3. From the dazzlingly refurbished art-deco concert hall in Budapest's Liszt Academy, Humphrey Burton Introduces orchestral music by three very different Hungarian giants. Barnabas Kelemen (violin), Budapest Symphony Chorus (women's voices), Hungarian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra/Tamas Vasary. Bartok: Two Pictures. Ligeti: Violin

Concerto. 8.20 in Memory of Liszt. Nicola Barranger visits the Ferenc Liszt Memorial Museum, opened to mark the 175th anniversary of the composer's death and situated in his Budapest home.

8.40 Concert, part 2. Liszt: Dante Symphony. 9.40 Postscript. George Szirtes takes a journey down the Danube, exploring its culture, history and life

today, 4: Pest. 10.00 Music Restored. Return of the series celebrating early music, introduced by Lucia Skeaping, Emma Kirkby (soprano), Academy of Ancient Music/Andrew Manze (violin).

6.00 A Pig's Tale (1995) (40098). 8.00 Heart of Fire (1996) (72814). 10.00 Homeward Bound II: Lost in San Fran-

cisco (1996) (29036), **12.00** Clara's Heart (1988) (267098), **1.45**, A Pig's Tale

(1995) (88938456). 3.30 Apocalypse

fatch (1995) (880746). 6.00 Home

(51659). 8.00 The Crucible (1996)

(1995) (31051012).

SKY CINEMA

SKY MOVIEMAX

Bound II: Lost in San Francisco (1996)

(56104) See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Out-rage (1997) (202388). 11.35 Lone Star

(1996) (26684253). **1.50** Deadly Pursuits (1995) (233692). **3.25 - 6.00** Clockers

6.00 The Indian in the Curboard (1995)

(1996) (62348). 1.00 My Ghost Dog (1997)

(65524), **3.00** Time to Say Goodbye (5967) (72611). **5.00** My Very Best Friend

(1996) (58223920). 6.45 The Indian in the

Cupboard (1995) (25241291). 8.30 El News Week in Review (5388). 9.00 The First

of Blood (1996) (17272), 12-30 Confes-

sions of a Lapdancer (1997) (7876234).

1.55 Set It Off (1896) (10095437). 4.00

4.00 Two for the Road (1967) (9780291).

10.00 Hollywood Hall of Fame (8097123).

(1964) (1246586). **2.00** Tales That Witness Madness (1973) (2004321). **3.35** A Star is

8.00 The A-Team (7872036). 8.00 Red

Stories of the Highway Parol (3788901). 9.30 Cops (424785). 10.00 The Basement (8833543). 10.30 Red Shoe Diaries

(8842291). 11.00 Films: Bill and Ted's Ex-

cellent Adventure (1989) (4826746). 1.00

Beverly Hills Bordello (7795079). 1.30 Red Shoe Diaries (4873654). 2.00 The

ament (7845470). 2.30 Cops

(7694692). 5.00 Real Stories of the High-

4.00 Fishing Advertures (2630272), 4.30 Driving Passions (2636458), 5.00 Flightline (6883833), 5.30 Treasure Humers

(7864505), 3.00 Film: King Fret

way Patrol (8938050). 5.30 - 8.00

Freaky Stories (5025893).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6.00 The Front Page (1974) (2594494). 8.00 Ordinary People (1980) (2566511).

10.30 Written on the Wind (1956)

(3308/833), 12.10 The Pumpkin Ester

om (1937) (3326925). 5.22 Close.

6.00 White Water Summer (1987) (90760).

res' Club (1996) (57833), 11.00 Bordello

(42456). 8.00 Off on a Cornet (14524).

8.00 Time to Say Goodbye (1997) (94036), 11.00 The First Wives' Club

PICK OF THE DAY

CHARLOTTE JONES scores a During daily polishing duty, they



5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Life, Death and Sex with Mike 7.00 NEWS; The Archers

735 Front Row. Francine Stock investigates the life of Francis Bacon. the acclaimed painter and long-term habitue of the Colony Club, Soho, as portrayed by Derek Jacobi in a new film, Love is the Devil. 7.45 The Jury. By Matthew Solon. A

high-profile public figure is fighting a libel case to preserve her reputation. As proceedings get under way, it becomes clear to the members of the jury that the trial will have an impact on their own lives. With Suzanne Bertish, Patrick Robinson and Kelly Hunter. Director Andy Jordan (4/25). 8.00 NEWS; Consequences.

Jonathan Freedland looks back at political or social turning points of the past fifty years. Package Holi-days'. The growth of mass tourism from humble beginnings after the war to the biggest industry in the world. Fifty years ago, holidaymakers were content with Scunthorpe, Bognor or Skegness, but now millions of Britons fly abroad for their

8.30 Matrix of Power. The Treasury'. The third in a documentary series mapping Britain's emerging constitutional landscape and examining how we will be governed in the years ahead. Matthew d'Ancona asks if the Treasury is becoming the central engine of public policy. 9.00 NEWS; Living by Numbers. A look at the murky world of maths. In

this edition, Fisher Dilke takes a look at mathematical codes with their roots in the world of espionage and finds out how they are now underpinning the digital revolution. 9.30 Between Ourselves. Olivia

O'Leary talks to pairs of people who have had parallel experiences. In this edition, ian Histop, editor of Private Eye, and Oliver Schmitt, editor of the German satirical magazine Titanic, explore the power of satire. 10.00 The World Tonight, With Robin Lustic.

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Enduring Love. By lan McEwan, abridged in ten parts by Penny Leicester, read by David Horovitch. A searing tale of love and obsession, set in contemporary London. (4/10). 11.00 Only Connect, Arabella Weir hosts the panel game that seeks to connect the seemingly unconnected.

This week's panellists are Robert Liewelyn, Jo Enright, John Moloney and Rhona Cameron. 11.30 A Retiring Fellow. (R) 12.00 News. 12.30 Late Book: The Tesseract. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News.

5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. RADIO 4 LW (198kHz)

12.04 News Headlines; Shipping

(693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Brian Hayes. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 The Thursday Match. Featuring coverage of the night's matches in the European Cup Winners Cup first round, first leg: Newcastle v Partizan Belgrade (Yugoslavia), Chelsea v Helsingborgs IF (Sweden), and Hearts v Real Mallorca (Spain). 10.00 Late Night Live. With Nick Robinson, including the day's sports round-up at 10.30, a late night news briefing at 11.00, and at 11.15 The Fi-nancial World Tonight.

CLASSIC FM (1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Balley. 6.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Classics at Seven. 9.00 Con-cert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

100 Up All Night

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams, 1.00 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Bobby Hain FM only Mark Forrest from 645. 7.30 Mark Forrest. 10.00 James Merritt. 1.00 Craig Wallace. 4-30 - 6.30 Jeremy Clark. WORLD SERVICE

(198kHz LW) 100 Newsdesk. 130 Westway. 145 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdes 2.30 Composer of the Month. 3.00 Newsday. 3,30 Focus on Faith. 4.00 World News. 4.05 World Business Report. 4.15 Sports Roundup. 4.30 The World Today (430-700)/Insight (SW 5875kHz only). 4.45 Off the Shelf - Human Croquet (SW 5875kHz only). **5.30** Outlook (SW 7235kHz only). **5.55 - 6.30** Science View (SW 7235kHz only).

TALK RADIO 7.00 Bill Overton and Kirsty Young. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 11.00 Lorraine Kelly. 1.00 Anna Raeburn, 3.00 Tommy Boyd, 5.00 Peter Deeley. 7.00 Live European Cup Winners Cup Cheisea v Helsingborgs, 10,00 James Whale, 1.00 Ian Collins, 5.00 - 7.00 The Early Show with Bill Overton.

Enders (5449185). 1,00 All Creatures

The BN (4841630). 3.55 Bergerac

Cornedy Alternative: Don't Wait Up

Great and Small (4231388), 2.00 Dales (581524), 2.55 The Bill (6824494), 3.25

(1869543), 4.55 EastEnders (8284524), 5.30 Angels (2652494), 6.00 All Cree-

tures Great and Small (421524). 7.00 The

(8022017). 7.40 The Comedy Alternative

Dad's Army (2794611). 8.20 Yes, Minister

8296825), 9.00 Auf Wiedersehen, Pet 64131678). 10.05 Men Behaving Badly

(3233611). 10.45 Men Behaving Badly (642404). 11.25 Bottom (7479369). 12.05

2.05 Stay Lucky (1762789), 2.50 - 7.00 Shopping at Night (65761895).

6.00 Tiny Living (3872475). 9.00 Spe-

cial Babies (8074272). 9.30 Beyond Be-

Ga (39142529). 11.40 Brookside (3914259). 12.40 Jimmy's (2303659). 12.45 Rescue 91 (6896090). 1.15 Ready, Steedy, Cook (4077456). 1.50 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (13380801).

(8190307). 5.00 Ready, Steady, Cook (1517524). 5.35 Can't Cook, Won't Cook

(6622369). **7.00** Rescue 911 (9776098). **7.30** Beyond Bellef: Fact or Fiction

(2593765), 9.00 Nothing Lasts Forever

9.00 Films Unmissables: Singin' in the Rain (1952) (96325185). 11.00 Films: Un-

Rain (1952) (71316769) See Pick of the

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

7.00 Roseanne (3949), 7.30 Cosby (7017).

8.00 Grace under Fire (9369), 8.30 Spin City (1104), 8.00 Ellen (69104), 8.30 Sein-

City (1104, 9.00 Elien (69104, 9.30 Sen-feld (63456), 10.00 Frasier (78036), 10.30 Cheers (54456), 11.00 Kenny Everett (71949), 11.30 The Lerry Sanders Show (33949), 12.00 Late Night with David Let-termsn (51302), 1.00 Saturday Night Live (98554, 2.00 Dr Katz (58895), 2.30 Soap (37302), 3.00 The Kids in the Hall (50079).

3.30 Nightstand (28654). 4.00 Close.

(61921611). **1.00 Films** Mister Buckliving (1966) (61912963). **3.00 Films**: Single' in the

2.20 Living It Upl (8491123), 3.20 Rolonda (9599340), 4.10 Tempestt

(5168727). 6.40 Jarry Springer

(2563524). 11.00 The Sex Flies

(857290f), 12.00 Close,

Day. 5.00 Close.

da (5426524), 11.40 Brookside

(7026234). **LO5** Casualty (3997654).

LIVING

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

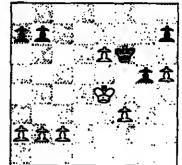
THE ONYX-Leigh Grand Prix is building up nicely - nicely that is, for those of us not directly involved - towards the traditional bloody climax at the Islington Open on the last weekend before Christmas.

Despite his relative failure at Grangemouth two weekends ago, in which a loss to Scottish grandmaster Colin McNab led to a total of "only" 4/5, Jim Plaskett has racked up no fewer than four perfect scores in the last two months with the latest 5/5 at the West Wales Congress last weekend. His extraordinary industry has now brought him to within a point of the leader, Mark Hebden, in the race for the £3,000 first prize.

Meanwhile Keith Arkell scored 6.5/7 at the traditional Paignton tournament, played at the extremely civilised rate of one round a day last week, to better his claim. As they enter if not the finishing straight then at least the final lap, the top scores are: Hebden

185.3/200, Plaskett 184.8, Arkell 177.9. It is likely that the winner will be one of these three, but this is far from certain because all have played in a large number of tournaments. According to the complex formula that governs this event, it is much easier to better one's score if one has played less thus far; and so even players such as McNab currently 14th on just 128.3 points might have a chance if they take to the road or hit it lucky in Islington, in which results are multiplied eightfold to a maximum of 40 over the five rounds, so as to keep suspense to the very end.

Jonathan Rowson (Black to play)



Jim Plaskett (White)

The above diagram shows the often rather manic Plaskett in much more controlled form in his fine win against Jonathan Rowson at Grangemouth.

His performance was particularly impressive as pawn endings are notoriously difficult, with just a single slip often leading to irreparable

Here 34...g4?? was desperate. Rowson should have 34... Kg7!. The main line goes 35 c4 Kh6 36 b4 Kxh5 37 c5 Kg6 when it's vital that 38 b5? Kf6 is bad for White. Instead 38 Ke5! h5 39 b5 Kf7 40 Kd6! g4 41 fog4 hxg4 42 c6 bxc6 43 bxc6 g3 44 c7 g2 45 c8Q

g1Q 46 Qxe6+ leads to a draw. The actual game moves are as follows: 34...g4?? 35 fxg4 Kg5 36 Kf3 e5 37 c4 e4+ 38 Kxe4 Kxg4 39 b4 Kxh5 40 Kf5 Kh4 41 c5 a6 42 a4 h5 43 b5 axb5 44 axb5 Kg3 45 c6 hxc6 46 b6 resigns

jspeelman@compuserve.com

POKER

PRESIDENT CLINTON was "holding his cards close to his vest" and "studying how to play his hand" - according to reports in the American

The New York Times chose this metaphor: "As an astute politician and adroit card player, he must by now realise that his incomplete explanations about Ms Lewinsky are a losing hand." Analysis of the current political

crisis has been thick with the language of poker, and rightly so. The unfolding dramas in Washington and Moscow bear strong resem-

blance to a poker game. Clinton had played a strong hand for many months, based on the quite reasonable assumption that his cards would not be shown down. Accordingly his tactics were to frustrate the process, by sidelining other players and delaying or withholding information that might force him to reveal his own hand in public. Special prosecutor Kenneth Starr brought pressure on these other players - such as the Secret

Service detail - to show their cards. What was Clinton's game plan? The same as that of another beleaguered president: Boris Yeltsin. The aim is simply to survive, to stay in the game. Losing a few hands, over in Yeltsin's case, an initial failure to secure support for his prime minister, is not crucial.

different positions. Yeltsin could not pull up more chips. The Russian economy is busted. He needs international support. The best he can hope for is to hang on at the table, relying on others. By contrast, the American economy is extremely strong. Against that prosperity, a few losing hands or mistaken plays in the form of sexual peccadilloes may not seem so important. Besides, in that sort of game, as in poker, it is acceptable practice to deceive, to fib and to conceal your cards.

However, financially they were in

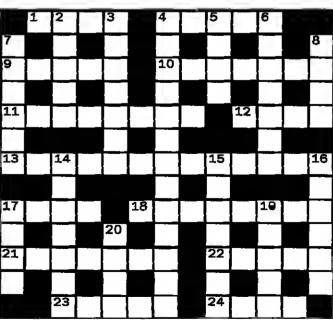
But Mr Starr found an ace in the hole. In return for granting Ms Lewinsky immunity from prosecution, she agreed to testify. This was equivalent to having a player who could bet and raise with no risk whatsoever. On the contrary, the lure of a lucrative book contract remains open when the game is over.

Obviously one cannot press the analogies with poker too far. But it is true that the habits of thought in politics, of winning out in difficult situations by means of raising the stakes, by knowing what your opponents and rivals are doing and by using bluff, bear some resemblance

to the way that poker players think. Can Clinton find a winning coup to get back in the game and turn it revelations of sexual impropriety or, all around? Possibly, A new Middle East settlement is on the cards. That would show he is still a winner in the big game of international politics.

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3718 Thursday 17 September



DOWN

ACROSS Incites (4)

Causes pain (5) Wartime submarine (1-4)

10 Screech (7) 11 Frame on which fruit-tree is

trained (8) 12 Replete (4)

13 Student (13) 17 Over (4)

18 Spring flower (8) 21 Italian dish (7) 22 Legal defence (5) 23 Incorrect (5) 24 Be abundant (4)

Spreading utensil (7) Alaskan city (6) Source of water (4) 14 Deny (7) 15 Insolently bold (7) 16 Cake (6) 17 Airborne soldier (4) 19 Approach road (5)

Property crime (13)

Utter defeat (4)

Colonist (7)

20 Game played on horseback Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Drummer, 5 Derry (Dromedary), 8 Vigil, 9 Chamber, 10 Re-en act, 11 Onace, 12 Putrid, 14 Odious, 17 Merit, 19 Abrenst, 22 Offence, 23 Daily, 24 Sieve, 25 Surface, DOWN: 1 Dover, 2 Ungnent, 3 Malta, 4 Recite, 5 Diamond 6 Robin, 7 Yorkers, 12 Pompous, 13 Intense, 15 Ocarina, 16 Waters, 18 Rifle

for the Criminally Insane, its Persephone (Sophie Thompson, right) and the brisk, masculine Dora (Jones), locked away for being a single mother and for smoking cigars respectively.

Gerninlani, after Corell: Concerto

grosso No 5 in G minor. Handel: Pi-

angero la sorte mia (Giulio Cesare).

Concerto armonico No 5 in B flat.

Geminiani, after Corelli: Concerto

grosso No 6 in A. Handel: Gentle Morpheus, Son of Night (Alceste).

10.45 Night Waves. Jonethan Swift

ironic promoter of eating children.

controversial clargyman, successful lover and failed politican - is the sub-

ject of a highly personal new study by the acclaimed biographer Victoria

12.00 Proms Composer of the

100 - 6.00 Through the Night.

Glendinning.

RADIO 4

spondent

580 4444.

†L30 Jazz Notes.

Week: Janacek (R)

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)

8.00 Today. 9.00 Between Ourselves.

9.45 Buster's Diaries.

11.30 Promenaders.

See Pick of the Day.

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Brain of Britain 1998.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Airswimming.

3.00 NEWS; Stepping Out (0171)

3.30 Strange Weather Days. (R) 3.45 Tales We Tell.

Paul Scotield star in The Crucible

(8pm Sky Premier), a well-

Miller play, based on the Salem

witch hunts in Massachusetts at

the end of the 17th century. Day-

Lewis and Ryder turn in their

customarily solid performances

in a surprisingly successful and

the Rain (9pm TNT) is

hest-known for Gene Kelly's

4.00 NEWS; Word of Mouth.

4.30 The Material World.

12.57 Weather,

9.30 Coffee - a Helfish Brew.

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

11.00 NEWS; From Our Own Corre-

senaer, attrib Pergolesi/Ricclotti:

notable double as writer and star forge a powerful friendship. Jones of this afternoon's stylish, witty doesn't do Twenties-speak very play, Airswimming (2.15pm R4). convincingly; but the dialogue's Set in St Dymphna's Hospital nervous intensity lifts it above the mean. The chamber music series inmates include the debbish Ensemble (4pm R3) begins a new season with the clarinettist Emma Johnson and the flautist Gary Arbuthnot playing music by Debussy, Françaix and Messiaen. ROBERT HANKS



holiday.

9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping SATELLITE AND CABLE

A STRONG trio of Daniel Day- kerh-splashing antics and the Lewis, Winona Ryder (right) and odd catchy tune - notably "Make 'em Laugh", and the title number -but there's more to it than that. received version of the Arthur An Oscar-nominated Jean Hagen is Kelly's silent-movie partner whose squeaky voice handicaps their transition to the "talkies". Meanwhile, Men in Crisis: Stalin vs Trotsky (7.30pm History Channel), presents a ambitious adaptation. Singin' in rather more realistic perspective PETER CONCHIR

(8405678). 6.30 Unterned Africa (5464901). 7.30 Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious World (2637185). 8.00 Science Frontiers (7845982), 9.00 Structures (7865746) 10.00 Detectives (8846017). 10.30 Detectives (8855765). 11.00 Forensic Detectives

PICK OF THE DAY

(7720456), 12.00 Flightline (6570988). 12.30 Driving Passions (6264234), 1.00 Wonders of Weather (7768925), 1.30 Wonders of Weether (4886126). 2.00 Close.

7.00 Alen Fighters (88930), 7.30 Games World (3894820), 7.45 Simpsons (26388), 8.15 Games World (7421969), 6.30 Garfield and Friends (80036), 8.00 Superman (82098), 10.00 Sally Raphael (20949), 11.00 Oprah Wintrey (86235), 12.00 Mar-ried with Children (6524), 12.30 M*A*S*H (7782456), 12.55 Special K (61357291). (7/23/56), 1255 Special K (15/25/56), 1.55 Special K (15/25/562), 2.00 Sally Raphael (3/5/665), 2.55 Special K (16/69/61), 3.00 Jerny Jones (4494)55, 3.55 Special K (16/69/01). 4.00 Oprah Wirtney (40104), 5.00 Star Trek (4036), 6.00 Merried with Children (6369), **6.30** Dream Team (6479), **7.00** The Simpsons (5765). 7.30 Simpsons (9833). 6.00 Dumbest Criminals (1185). 8.30 World's Weirdest TV (3920). 8.00 Friends (32036), 9.30 Friends (22794), 10.00 E R (42901). **11.00** Dream Team (90663). **11.30** Star Trek (81433). **12.30** Law and Order (60031), 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (6150505). SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Sports Centre (5734681), 715 World Wresting (581524), 8.15 Sky Sports Centre

(5839123). 8.30 Racing News (75949). 9.00 Aerobics (59301). 9.30 The Pavilion End (45949). 10.30 Shell Howard Keel Golf Classic (55441). 12.00 Aerobics (79765). 12.30 European Weekly (60938). 1.00 Euro Tour Golf (6436562). 5.00 Wrestling (4678), 6.00 Sports Centre (9611), 6.30 Footbal League (2281), 7.00 What a Week-end (5307), 7.30 Futbol Mundial (9475), 8.00 Ringside (74524), 8.00 World Sport (94388), 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (530830), 10.45 Fingside (14038), 11.45 F3 6678). #L45 Sports Centre (871730). 12.00 The Rugby Club (53760), 1.00 Tight Lines (91012), 2,00 World Sport (26857).

3.00 Finaside (95)86), 4.00 Sports Centre

on the late 1920s.

(89417741), 445 Close. SKY SPORTS 2 7.00 Aerobies (7154962). 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (5874630), 7.45 Racing News 84678). 8.15 Europeen Wet (\$004682), 8.45 Sports Centre (\$00638), 9,00 Fish TV Fishing Taxas (1452727), 9,30 Fish TV (\$688630), 10,00 Full Throt-tie (\$060543), 10,30 World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (\$255340). 12.30 Windsurfing Tour (\$899746). 1.00 Speedway Preview (5081036). 3.00 World of Super League (4055291). 5.00 Football League Review (3188291). 6.00 Rebel TV (4969475). 6.30 The Rugby Club (1015348) 7.30 Inside the PGA Tour (4949611). 6.00 Powerboat Championships (4287369). 9.00 Football League (2320054). 9.20 What a Weekend (9679982). 10.00 Golf USA (5125366), 12.00 Rebel TV (7810215).

12.30 Sports Centre (9536296) 12.45 Football League (2402302), 145 What 8 Weekend (240925), 1.45 Powerboat (8977470), 2.45 Equestrianism (2422166). 3.15 Sports Centre (15135789), 3.30 Close. SKY SPORTS 3 11.00 Cricket - Britannic Assurance (2/577727). 1.00 Futbol Mundal

(37920007). 1.30 Cricket - Britannic Assurance (75922949), 6.00 Equestrianism (31166949). 6.30 Formula Three Racing (31140901). 7.00 Tight Lines (96348036 8.00 Euro Tour Golf - Trophee Lancome (98328272). 10.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scranbook (80965920), 11.30 Closs. STROSPORT

7.30 Saling Magazine (59475), 8.00 Flow-ing (67484), 6.00 Cycling: Tour of Spain 98. 10.00 Tractor Pulling (55659). 11.00 Footbell: World Cup Legends (68123), 12-00 Motors Megazine (70543), 1.30 Cycling: Tour of Spein (99017), 2-00 Cycling: Tour of Spain (68727), 4.00 Relly (7630), 4.30 Trial (94123), 6.00 Tractor Puling (10415). 7.00 Strength (83272). 6.00 Football (86955). 10.00 Football (47982). 12.00 Rally (42925). 12.30 Close. UK GOLD

(4308678), **8.30** The Bill (8836630), **9.00** The Bill (8827982), **9.30** Bergerac (7457746), 10.30 The Sullivans (8856494). 11.00 Dalias (5962914), 11.55 Neigh-



7.00 Crossroads (7748494), 7.30 Neighbours (7029814), 7.55 EastEnders



REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

N ERELAND AS BBC1 London except: 6.30 - 7.00 Newstine 6.30 SCOTLAND As BBC1 London except: 6.00 News 6.30 - 7.00 Reporting Scoland; Weather 8.30 - 9.00 The Beech grove Garden
WALES As BBC1 London except 6.30
won Wales Today 1.35 Ten-Minute

7.00 Wales Today 1.35 Ten-Minute Match 1.45 - 1.50 Ten-Minute Match

Match 1.45 - 1.50 Ten-Minute Metch ANGLIA
As Cartton except: 12.20 Angla News and Westher (4612185). 1.00 Spit Second (68727). 1.30 Home and Away (5167). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (3021830). 3.20 Angla News and Westher (5486920). 5.10 Shortland Street (9371253). 6.00 Home and Away (563746). 8.25 Anglia News (571765). 6.55 Whats On (593272). 10.00 ITN News; Westher (37543). 10.30 Angla News and Westher (814746). 10.45 Roy and HG's Planet Norwich (984843). 11.45 The Big Match: European Cup (928948). 12.35 Highlander (9783383). 1.80 Trainspotters (689147). 2.50 cyber.cafe (957296). 3.13 Countdown UK (394091). 4.15 Variessa (6881012). 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (75944).

AS Carlton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (4612185). 12.30 ITN News; Weather (52340). 1.00 Echo Point (66727). 3.20 Central News (5496920). 5.10 Shorband Street (8371258). 5.00 CENTRAL 5.10 Shortland Street (837/253), 6.00 Home and Away (563/46), 6.25 Central News and Weather (571765), 6.55 Lifeline (5932/72), 10.30 Central News, Weather and Travel Update (823494), 10.40 The Big Match: European Cup Winners Cup Newcastle United v Partizan Belgrace (793/104), 11.25 Anatomy of Disaster (3/5630), 4.05 Jobfinder (5586/41), 5.20 Asian Eye (9/193296). HTV WALES

(5586/AI), 3.20 Asian Eye (states), HTV WALES
As Cariton excepts 10.15 This Morning (30.5611), 12.45 HTV News (2189098).
1.00 Shortland Street (86727), 1.30 Home and Away (51611), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (30.21830), 3.20 HTV News (5498820), 5.40 A Country Practice (9371253), 8.00 Home and Away (553746), 6.25 Wales Tonight (744340), 7.30 Up the Creek (755), 10.30 HTV News (823494), 10.40 The Francis (93814), 11.00 Artyfax (226949), 11.40 What Will They Think of Next? (684727), 12.40 The Big March: European Cup Winners Cup Newcastle United v Partizan Belgrade (8899489), 12.55 Highlander

(9763383). 1.50 Trainspotters (689147). 2.50 cyber.cafe (9537296). 3.15 Count-down UK (994091). 4.15 Venessa (6881072). 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (75944). HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 6.25 HTV West Weather (164524). 6.30 The West Tonight (253). 7.30 What Will They Think of Next? (765). 10.40 West Eye View (97814). 11.40 Eh Maiot: European Cup Winners

t1.40 Big Match: European Cup Winners Cup Newcastle United v Partizan Bel-grade (740307). 12-25 Jenny (8885050).

grade (740307). 12.25 Jenny (8885050).

AFERIDIAN

As Cariton except: 10.15 This Momning (305611). 12.15 Meridian News and Weather (2169096). 1.00 Shortland Street (66727). 1.30 Home and Away (9371253). 8.37 Crimestoppers (206949). 6.00 Meridian Tonight (901). 6.30 Southern Steem (253). 10.30 Meridian News (223494). 10.40 Big Match: European Cup Winners Cup Newsasta United v Partizan Belgrade (793104). 11.25 The Diany of Jack the Ripper (904383). 1.50 Trainspotters (8891147). 2.50 cybercafe (9537296). 3.15 Countdown UK (394091). 4.15 Vanessa (8881012). 5.00 Freescreen (75944).

WESTCOLINTRY
As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (30581), 12.15 Westcountry News (216908), 12.27 Illuminations (4620104), 1.00 Emmardale (66727), 3.20 Westcountry News (5496920), 8.00 Westcountry Live (77659), 10.30 Westcountry University Live (314745), 10.45 Bendell and Parry Univested (382861), 11.15 Overdrive (532384), 11.45 The Big Match: European Cup Winners Cup Newcastie United v Cup Winners Cup Newcastle United v Partizen Belgrade (749678). 12.30 Jenny (9825654). 12.35 Soundtrax (9297437).

12.55 Highlander (9763383), 1.50 Trainspotters (6891147), 2.50 cyber.cafe

(9537296), 3.15 Countriown UK (394091). 4.15 Vanessa (6881012), 5.00 (TV Nightscreen (75944). YORKSHIRE
As Cartton except: 10.15 This Morning (305811). 12.15 Calendar News and Weather (2163056). 1.00 Horne and Away (51883307). 1.25 Jerry Springer Show (3464475). 2.30 Emmartale (23022543). 2.40 Dales Supermartet Sweep (505727). 3.20 Calendar News (5496920). 3.40 News; Weather (439949). 5.55 Calendar (33185). 6.30 Tonight (253). 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (823494). 10.40 Q & A (913514). 11.10 The Question is (266949). 4.20 Jobfinder (8682995).

TYNE TEES rkshire except: 12.15 North East News (2169096). 3.20 North East News (2169096). 5.55 North East Westiner (286185). 8.00 North East Toright (77659). 7.30 The North East Malch - European Cup Winners Cup Newcastle v Partzan Belgrade (977746), 10.30 North East News (623494), 10.40 Ktuz's Obses-sions (913814), 11.20 Cate Sport (286949), 11.40 Tales from the Darkside (684727). 12.10 Coach (5319876).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Caro-ine in the City (25699861). 12.30 Sesame Street (34825833). 1.00 Slot Metithin: Dailydd a Bitw a Pingu (94702678), **1.30** Fam: All Through the Night (46538340), **3.30** Wild World (68836678), **4.30** Rickl Lake (68810369). (68839978), 4.30 HICO Table (6880499), 5.00 5Pung: Uned 5 (39318814), 5.30 Countdown (68834949), 6.00 Newyddion (36675104), 6.20 Heno (38937017), 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (15582901), 7.25 Tafam y Cwr Drwg (37219901), 6.00 O Fleen Dy Well (39314088), 5.30 Newyddion Topologicas, 8.60 Top Ries and Ries of (98326833), 9.00 The Rise and Rise of Viagra (24017307), 10.00 Ultraviolet (98358776), 11.05 Stories (77552524).

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TELEVISION REVIEW REES

JASPER

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never do at home," si ed. This, of course, is not a efor the travellers, being les omers than piercers. Zam the dee's reighbour for the k, had roughly double th bard Ces W

300

fort on camera. film worked the difference

BBC1

8.00 Susiness Sreakfast (91098), 7.00 En Gamee (T) (61272), 9.00 Kilroy (3) (7500 Breakere (S) (7452982), 10.05 Style Che (9419611), 10.30 Delly Live (S) (4013765), Local Newe; Weather (1857901), 11.00 C Gemes Grandstend (63388), 1.00 News; (90389630), 1.20 Regionel news magezi), **7.00** Breakfast at the (S) (7500272), **9.40** Style Chellenge (S) (4013765), **10.55** News;

1.30 Commonwealth Osmas Orendstend. Includes the ment 100m linal (140pm) end the women's 5,000m tinel (2pm) (3) (T) (20456).

3.00 Neighbours (S) (T) (6107369). 3.25 Wilfam's Wieh Weilingtone (R) (S) (5400128).

3.30 Children's SSC: Wiggly Park (S) (4812833). 3.35 Playdaye (R) (B) (7501839). 3.55 Rugrats (R) (S) (T) (7512949). 4.20 Mr Wyml (S) (T) (6317765). 4.35 Certoon Critters (S) (T) (3185869). 3.00 Newercund (T) (8389611). 5.10 Byker Grove (R) (S) (T) (6822611). ੰ⊞

5.35 Neighbours. Nick gete a Job in PR, the pccr lemb.
And Sareh missee her exam (5) (T) (254185). wel Wasther (T) (833).

mai News. And weather (T) (185).

10

7.00 Watchdog. Anne Robinson and Alice Besr raturn with their consumer-affeire magazine (5) (T) (6727).

EastEnders, Sanjay has a party, It'll end in teare - It alwaye does in Albert Square (5) (7) (389).

Ground Forca. Chenging Rooms in this gerdsn, sort of as Alen Titchmersh and his helpere set about creating a sice of north Africa in north London for a family of four Irom Morocoo (8) (1) (5475).

5.30 The Shop. Continuing docu-soap tracing the refurbishment of Belfridges in Dxford Btreet. Where are the Ralph Leuren own-brand hangere? (5) (T) (4982).

onel News; Weather (T) (3712).

6.30

Linney's lithesome explores, wr missing flancé (日) (T) (980494)

11.10 Roch Heshansh (438475).

11.25 IELLY The Andromedia Strein (Robert Wiss 1970 U.S). The escond Michael Crichton script of the night involves en extra terrestrial virus fanding in smell-town Arizona. Although the movie is oksy, it would have been handled far less pretentiously in the 1950e (84351982).

Hey Norm? Would you like a beer?

1.50 Commonweelth Cames
To Barn. Orendstand (85845586)

Mstch (2853470).

CHELSEA VS HELSINGBOROS (7.15pm C5, right) The second live football match on Channel 5 this week – the advertisers must be beside thamselves with happiness. However, two doses of commentator Jonathan Pearce (1

MATCH OF THE DAY

Big Norm
hoets the
Cheers
Waekand
from 9pm
on 19th
& 20th
& 20th
September
on The
Paremount

BBC2

7.00 Children's BSC: Teletubbles (S) (1308096). 7.28 Smurfs' Adventuree (R) (5885765). 7.45 Blua Peter (T) (84388). 6.45 Noah's leland (R) (S) (4886920). 8. William's Wish Wellingtons (R) (S) (2801814). 8.40 S Life of Toye (R) (S) (1947630).

9.00 Commonwealth Gemes Grandstand. Weightlifting, boxing and netbell (S) (27340).

11.00 BIUIDE The Senk Dick (Edward Cline 1940 US). W C Fleide lands a job in e benk. See Film of the Day, below (2974253).

12.10 The Cer's tha Star (R) (S) (2675123). 12.30 Working Lunch (65814). 1.00 Commonwealth Gemea Grendstand (S) (T) (62901). 1.30 Petrocelli (R) (7020820). 2.20 Racing from Newbury (S) (8196104). 2.85 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (9472369). 3.00 Commonwealth Gemea Grandstand and Racing from Newbury (S) (7890388). 4.25 Ready, Steedy, Cook (S) (T) (6554036). 4.56 Esther (S) (T) (5801340).

5.30 Today's the Day (S) (T) (562).

S.00 The Simpsons. "Kruety Gets Busted". Kelsey
Grammer gueet-stars as Kruety is charged with armed rebbery (R) (S) (T) (588920).

6.25 Commonwealth Games Grandstand. Desilynam introduces highlights from the dey's competed in Kuala Lumpur, including the final of the men's 10 with Britain's new European champion, Darren Celexpacted to be competing for gold (he'll be up ago Trinidad and Tobago's explosive Ato Bokdon). Bwin

s.00 The Air Show. Fifty yeers of the Farnbordugh International Airshow, a visit to the air-socident investigation branch and the completion of British Airways' latset 747 (S) (T) (3017).

8,30 Top Gear. Which executive motor will Jeremy Clarkson prefer: the Ferrari 488M, the Aston Martin Vanlage, or the Bentley Amage? (5) (T) (2524).

9.00 Third Rock from the Sun. Dick takes e convict home to prove he theories on reforming oriminals (5) (61098).

8.25 Under the Sun: What Sort of Gentleman ere You After? Another chance to see Jane Treaves eye-opening film about Melbourne's most successful male prostitute, former fundture-meker Joel Ryan, who has more than 1,200 female clients on his books. The film hears from his customers and his increasingly uneasy wife (R) (55/358).

10.30 Newsnight. With Gordon Brewer (T) (700494).

11.15 Lete Review. Ien McEwen's new novel, Amsterdam, is up for consideration (S) (110017).

12.00 Grace under Fire (S) (75215). 12.30 BBC Learning Zone – Opan University: Virtuel Democracy? (53505). 1.00 Fortrase Britein (T) (85447). 1.30 Psychology in Action (T) (48418). 2.00 The Graate: Artists 5 (18215). 4.00 Teaching Film and Media – Young Film-mekers: the Eclectix Project (67418). 4.30 Mesterclase with Michael Buerk (15050). 5.00 Teacher Training – Computers Don't Bits: Business 5 (7871692). To 5.45em. 5 (7671692). To 5,45em

DO OMTV (1862765). **8.25** Vanessa (S) (T) (849494). **10.16** This Morning (T) (84082165). **12.20** Your Shout (4612185). **12.30** News: Weather (T) (52340). **1.00** London Today (T) (68727). **1.30** The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (7033494). **2.15** Home and Away (S) (T) (732036). **2.45** Dele's Supermarket Bweep (S) (T) (731907). **3.45** ITN News Headlinee (T) (5408307). **3.20** London Today (T) (5498920).

3.25 CF BB(B) 1118 1118

5.00 Roseenne. Roseenns once egain hosts the utilmete stress day for the extended family – Thanksgiving (R) (T) (548).

6.30 Hollyoaks. Chester adolescents (T) (123).

3.30 Cleasic Homas (R) (S) (T) (858). **4.00** Fifteen to One (S) (T) (494). **4.30** Countdown (S) (T) (3179098). **4.85** Ricki Lake (R) (8636038). **5.30** Pet Rescue (630).

1.88 IIIM Chase a Crooked Shedow (Michael Anderson 1958 UK). Ann Baxter's brother, presumed dead in a car crash, turns up to claim his inheritance. But is he an impostor? With Richard Todd (T) (51892920).

5.00 9.폭 oheel Serrymore's Strike It Rich. New series the tarky quiz show with its "hot spots" end its mperatively puny £10,000 jackpot (S) (T) (4253).

IULE The Truth ebout... Scaps. From the opie who brought us Hollywood Women, Hollywood is, sto. Ses Documentary of the Day, below (1) (1253).

10,40

11,40 The Sig Metch: Europeen Cup Winners Cup. Highlights of Newcestle United ve Partizan Beigrade (731859)

Highfender (9788692), 1.20 Planet Mirth (3862760), 1.50 Planet Rock Profiles (6040499), 2.20 Box Office America (2925321), 2.45 The Haunted Fiehtenk (9530383), 3.10 Heirloom (23470895), 3.35 Best of British Motor Sport (85683147), 4.05 Soundtrex (5) (55895050), 4.20 ITV Nightscrean (8682895), To 530am.

IV Carlton

8,10

5.40 Ne

London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-East, including a local weather bulletin (T) (901).

8.30 Videotech. Margherita Taylor with the latest charte and "goestp" from the pop world (8) (253).

7.00 Emmerdele. The villaga preys for Kathy (she's been run over by a car) (S) (T) (4123).

7.80 Algerie Oeily. Algerie's independent journalists continua lineir struggla to cover the civil war (556036).

8.00 Nigel Slater's Real Food Shew. Potatoes era this week's chosen ingredient, with Slater preparing fish-and-chip salad with salsa verde, and pan-fried potatoes with thyme and teleggio cheese (T) (8185).

из) Weether (П) (37543).

10.30 London Tonight (T) (823494). Thuredey Night Live. Nicky Campbell and Andrew Neil try to start an argument in the heated, if not exactly lucid, studio-yebber show (S) (541678).

hannel

7.00 The Sig Sreskfest (S) (T) (54982). 9.00 Bewitched (T) (47920).

vildren's tTV: Wizadora (R) (5486543). 3.35 Kipper (S) (4828456). 3.45 The Adventures of Paddington er (S) (4826036). 3.55 Scooby Doo (R) (T) (7516765). 15 Hey Arnold (S) (T) (8024088). 4.40 Knight Bohool (8954104).

11.30 Moving People (4475), **12.00** Seamne Street (34456), **12.30** I Dream of Jeannie (50982), **1.00** Watercolour Challenge (64369), **1.30** The Electric House (97855562).

Home end Away (S) (T) (9371253). ws; Weether (T) (160307).

6,00

Whet Will They Think of Next? Tomorow's World in other words, with Carol Vordarman presenting from the Millennium Dome (S) (T) (765).

7.30

5.30 Eatate Agents. More docu-soap vérité with tha Bristoi house-sellers. The agency's owner triss to aliminate stress with 7am workouts (T) (8678).
5.00 SIDIRE The Truth ebout... Soaps. From the people who brought us Hollywood Women, Hollywood Wids, etc. Ses Documentery of the Day, below (T) (1)

Not exectly whet you might expect from a Lewrence Kasdan 1995 US).

Not exectly whet you might expect from a Lewrence Kasden movie, this insubstential romantlo cornedy stere Meg Ryan (contoming to her ditzy pereona) as a woman whose itser of liying has causad her to lose her Parle-bound boyfriend. Timothy Hutton. She plucks up the courage to travel to France to win him back, falling in en route with Galilo jewel thist Kevin Kline (n e role purportedly written for Gérard Deperdieu). A Ninetlea version of all those Cary Grant-Hichcock Riviera larks is obviously at the back of Kasden's mind. (T) (94880949). 8.30 Wild World. Meet the American bull elk, famous for eerle meting-call known as "bugling", which is now lergely restricted to the Rocky Mountaine (T) (8320).

11.05 Renegade TV. Various experimental shorts, including 8j6rks film on minimeliem, Gets Dazed, and The End, written and directed by Kethy Burke (T) (79188253). to.oo LILLI Firet Slood (Ted Kotchef! 1882 US). Rew, calculated but very simplisite two-fleted action larks with Sylvester Stallone, introducing the world to his Vietnem veteran avengar, John Rambo. Our man is pushed too far by the sheriff of a small American town (Brian Dannehy). After being wrongfully arrested, the ex-Grean Beret escapes to lead local law-enforcers and en army detachment e merry dance through the mountains. Richard Cremna and NYPD Blue's David Caruso co-ster (T) (3912814).

11.50 Hotline (R) (2591478). 12.25 Live end Dengerous (S) (6874470). 1.05 Live and Dengerous Continued (S) (64528525). 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (4127885). 5.30 (100 Per Cent (S) (4020825). To 6am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT

2.35 Srainspotting. Ineights from Ken Campbell (56760).
3.35 Triumph of the Nerds (R) (S) (T) (55031).
4.30 Humen Jungte (R) (1748).
5.00 The Middle Agee (8687925).
To 5.55em.

2.05 Erotic Tales. Bob Releison's tele set in e bathroom showroom (2555498).

OF THE DAY

THE TRUTH ABOUT... SOAPS (9pm ITV, right) What really goes on behind the scenes of Britain's soep operas might well make for fascinating viewing — far more interesting, in fact, than the faniasy universa invented by the tabloids and women's weeklies. This remorseless but anodyne barrage of soundbites (Isla Fisher, John Altman, Leslie Grantham, Patsy Palmer, Kevin Kennedy— if you need to ask who these people are, then you're not in the target audience) wouldn't get a second glance from any self-respecting showbiz editor. A bonus for the terminally suds-addicted, however, comes by





FILM OF THE DAY

set the video for this gloriously insane W C Fleids comedy, written by Fleids himself (right) under the pseudonym Maheima Kane Jeeves. It is the story of a han-pecked ne'er-do-well. Eghert Souse, who eccidentally folls a bank robbery end is rewarded with e job as a bank guard. When he's not bothering the customars or being pestered by his vile family, Souse epends his days down The Bleck Pussy Cet Ceff being poured a succession of stiff ones by Shemp Howard, one of the Three Stooges on a solo gig. Lovely stuff, topped off with e brilliently staged car chase.



Channel 5

THE THURSDAY REVIEW
The Independent 17 September 1998

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S. P.

Section 1

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ALTER A LEMMA IN THE STATE OF T

House M

Uneven movie version of the all-black Broadway musical which changes Bizet's estting from Mérimés's Spain to s parachuta factory in Jacksonville, Florida, with the libretto rewritten by Osoar Hammaretein II. Dorothy Dandridge (einging voice dubbed by Marilyn Horne) is e epectaculer Carmen; but Harry Belefonta is misceet as the man she destroye (1) (89038). 6.00 (F) (S) (T) (1421920). 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (5401036). 7.35 What s Mese (1578307). **5.00** Havekezoo (S) (5603524). **8.30** Dappledown Farm (R) (9615123). **8.00** Farne and Fortune (R) (5416494). **9.25** Russell Grant's Postcarde (5342562). **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (R) (S) (7282368). **10.20** Sunset Beach (S) (T) (447291). **11.10** Lesze (S) (4588236). **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S) (9886611). **12.30** Femily Affaire (S) (T) (295185). **1.30** Sons and Daughtare (2984456). **2.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (7671235).

2.30 Open House with Gioria Hunniford. Jimmy Hill needs no further invitation (S) (3186630).

3.30 IIIII Chief Crazy Horse (George Sharman 1955 US). Somewhere on the scale from naïve to mad, this hokey, so-called biopic eters Victor Meture es the Dakota-Sioux chief, Crazy Horse (2969833).

5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9943036).

6.00 100 Per Cant. The game show without a host, bul probably with a sprinkling of viewers. Quiz shows always have some (S) (4087017).

7.00 Chennel 4 News Weether. Including headines et 7.30pm (5) (1) (330456). Family Affairs. It is Nick's 40th birthday (scep shorthend for teers and tanitums), and Elsa tells Jack that the marriage is over (S) (T) (4058369). 5 News, including First on Five (S) (T) (5860920).

7.18 Winners' Cup: Chefsea vs Helaingborge: Steve Scott presents live coverage from Stamford Bridge as reigning chempione Cheises take on the Swedish side in this first-round, first-leg match. The kick-off is at 7.45pm. See Metch of the Day, below (S) (48098497).